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PLUS ROUND-UP OF THE LATEST NEWS IN THE WORLD OF MOTORCYCLES – SEE DRIVING

CHILD TRAFFICKING HITS NEW HEIGHTS

Social services chief on the battle to save vulnerable youngsters from exploitation

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

A SENIOR County Hall official has revealed the “parental responsibility” he feels towards the growing number of vulnerable children being smuggled through Kent ports from countries such as Afghanistan.

Bill Anderson, director of children's social services at Kent County Council, said one reason for the increasing influx of young people into the county was because of tightened security measures at airports.

New figures released under the Freedom of Information Act found KCC took 474 children into its care between April and December last year. But during that period, 86 of the young people went missing, making them vulnerable to sexual and economic exploitation.

Nationally, the figures show there has been a 90 per cent increase compared to the amount of trafficked children arriving over the last three years. KCC has to handle the highest numbers of young people coming into the UK from the world's trouble spots.

Mr Anderson said the largest proportion of ‘unaccompanied minors’ came from Afghanistan, with a high numbers also from Eritrea, Iran and Iraq.

“These youngsters have had a very difficult and perilous journey to the UK,” he said.

“We are very mindful of the threats to these young people in terms of economic and sexual exploitation.

“What we find is that they come from situations of considerable political instability where the security of the state has broken down, the state is incredibly corrupt and they are enormously distrustful of authority.

Suspicious

“This is compounded by their fear of being deported.

“It is not surprising that a lot of the young people, who can be quite resilient, trust the networks they have established.

“The evidence we have is that the vast majority that disappear almost certainly for these reasons, not that they are being exploited sexually or economically but because they are suspicious of the state.”

Children arriving through ports into the UK hidden in the backs of lorries tend to have escaped countries torn apart by conflict, compared to those that are smuggled through airports

with false papers, who are usually from more stable states.

Wendy Catterick, project co-ordinator at the Riverside Centre in Canterbury, which provides help and support for the young refugees, said the charity had never before seen such a high number of children using its services.

The charity, which supports 50 young people, also works to dispel the myths propagated by traffickers eager to boost their trade, for example about the levels of benefits they can expect.

Ms Catterick said there were children who disappeared from the centre.

She said: “We had one case where the lad ran off thinking his claim was rejected. He disappeared and couple of days later he was given leave to remain, but no-one could find him.”

She said sometimes the children went off to stay with family or friends in different parts of the country.

“If they do it properly, social services researches where they are going to live,” she said. “There were some girls from Eritrea who disappeared into their own community.

“They are so much more vulnerable then because there is no support or money so they are relying on other people they know.”

Ms Catterick said that was when

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



Colonel finds stolen medals on eBay

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Kent today



TODAY: A fine day is in prospect with plenty of sunshine throughout. It will be warm inland. However, the brisk north-easterly wind will keep most coastal areas much cooler. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F).
TONIGHT: Dry. Clear spells for a time, but mist patches will form. Gentle winds. Min temp 4-7C (39-45F).

Around Britain

		C	F			C	F
Aberdeen	sun	13	55	London	sun	16	61
Belfast	fair	17	63	Liverpool	fair	18	64
Birmingham	fair	14	57	Manchester	sun	17	63
Bristol	fair	16	61	Newcastle	sun	15	59
Cardiff	sun	14	57	Nottingham	sun	14	57
Cardiff	sun	15	59	Oxford	fair	17	63
Cardiff	cloudy	13	55	Southampton	fair	18	61
Edinburgh	sun	10	50	Stirling	sun	18	61
Glasgow	sun	15	59	Southport	sun	18	61
Isle of Man	sun	12	54	Swansea	fair	15	59
Leeds	fair	14	57	Torquay	sun	14	57

Sun & moon

Sunrise	6:10am	Sunset	7:45pm	Lighting up times	7:45pm to 8:10pm
Moonrise	5:10pm	Moonset	1:45pm		

High Tides

	Today	Tomorrow
Dover	07:31 4.9 18.04 5.1	08:39 5.2 20.56 5.4
Margate	08:33 3.6 20.24 3.7	09:18 3.8 21.31 3.9
St Mary's	09:38 4.1 13.27 4.2	01:54 4.3 14.31 4.3

Week ahead

Monday Sunny and warm. max 18C min 7C	Thursday Dry and sunny. max 18C min 7C
Tuesday Bright and warm. max 18C min 7C	Friday Scattered showers. max 18C min 9C
Wednesday Sunny spells. max 17C min 6C	Saturday Dry and bright. max 18C min 6C

'We do everything we can to keep them safe'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

there was a danger of them ending up in prostitution or in the hands of other criminals.

"They are very vulnerable and if they have no money to support themselves they are going to do something black market, which will not be good and they will be exploited."

West Sussex, which handles children the

authorities pick up at Gatwick, has managed to reduce the amount of young people that go missing from its care to only five out of 55. In the previous three years 42 went missing.

Mr Anderson said KCC worked closely with other local authorities, including West Sussex, with entry points for children trafficked from abroad, and police in the UK and

Europe. "There are massive police operations targeting the trafficking for exploitation of young people and adults," he added.

"We work very closely with that and take it exceptionally seriously. We have a parental responsibility to these young people and we do everything we can to protect them, keep them safe and give them effective support."

Break blockade with gunboats, says P&O

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE French authorities should send in gunboats to move fishermen who block their ports and create chaos for Kent companies.

That is the view of P&O Ferries, which lost £1 million every day of this week's blockade at Calais, Boulogne and Dunkirk.

The company is now preparing a compensation case. P&O official Brian Rees said: "The French have used a gunboat before and it was very effective."

He said the company had sympathy for the fishermen in their dispute over fishing quotas, which they claim are too small to survive on.

But he added: "This is like a naughty child throwing toys out of the pram – and the parent caves in every time. We have a lot of sympathy for the fishermen – it is a tough job – but it's tough for everyone at the moment."

"They set up a blockade, everything grinds to a halt and the French Government gives them money again. What's the incentive for this to stop? It's been going on since the 1980s."

With ferries unable to cross the Channel Operation Stack was implemented, turning the M20 into a giant lorry park.

Mr Rees said the cost to Kent Police and local businesses was high, with many hauliers working on profit margins as low as one per cent.

"They really do have to watch every penny," Mr Rees said. "The situation needs stoking at the very highest level to say to France that they have an obligation to keep the border, particularly at Calais, open. They can't just stand by and watch half a dozen fishermen close the port."

"The fishermen hold all the cards. They want to changes to fishing quotas, but the



SCUPPERED: The Pride of Dover was among the ferries caught up in the French dispute. P&O puts its losses at £1m a day

French Government doesn't set those – that is down to the EU. The fishermen have nothing to lose, so they can drag it out. That makes us nervous."

Mr Rees said the ferry company's losses were huge. "We should have seven ferries

KENT County Council is seeking legal advice in an attempt to end the disruption caused by industrial action in France.

The authority has teamed up with P&O Ferries, LD Lines and other affected businesses as part of its **Enough is Enough** campaign to pressure the Government into claiming compensation from the French.

Leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "When you consider the misery caused to tens of thousands of Kent people affected by the strikes and the impact on their businesses and travel plans, it is time to show we cannot and will not put up with these situations any longer."

"We are seeking urgent legal advice to establish whether France has broken the law by allowing the strikes to stop the free movement of people and goods."

KCC is asking people affected by the strikes to email their comments to enoughisenough@kent.gov.uk.

sailing back and forth, doing 34 sailings each way. On a normal day we'd carry about 4,000 trucks through Dover, and midweek we should be doing 6,000 cars and coaches. It is a massive business, about a million pounds a day. We had to hand almost all the tourist traffic to Eurotunnel."

The ferry firm called on the French Government to send in its navy to break up blockades in future.

He said: "We would say to the fishermen, 'Make your point, we know you've got problems and respect your right to demonstrate'."

"But a point comes when the Government should clear the port."

"They never do that, apart from one time a few years ago when they sent in a gunboat."

"Imagine if fishermen blocked Dover. I don't think we would idly stand by. The French have an obligation to keep the route open."

The company is looking at using the Belgian port of Ostend as a back-up in the event of more disputes, but the voyage takes up to four hours.

French fisheries minister Michel Barnier has reputedly offered four million euros to the fishermen in northern France, but they are still demanding larger catch quotas.

The haulage companies are being hit hard too, with many trucks having to queue for long periods on closed off sections of the M20 during Operation Stack.

Jo Tanner of the Freight Transport Association, based in Tunbridge Wells, said: "The blockade cost hauliers £2m per day – and that's just the ones who made it as far as the M20."

"The transport sector is already struggling to stay afloat and this is the last thing we need. Seeking compensation from the French Government isn't an option for most operators as they don't have the funds needed to pursue such action."

"Instead, they're having to suck it up – and for some it could be through the last straw."

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'Mr Carry On' dies

Producer whose films became a national institution spent formative years in Kent

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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THE producer of the innuendo-laden series of Carry On films has died at the age of 95.

Peter Rogers, who born in Rochester, made 31 of the cult movies, which played on the British love of double entendre and became a national institution.

The former journalist went to the King's School in his hometown and began his career as a reporter on the Kentish Express in Ashford.

He went on to become a screenwriter in 1942, working on cinema show Sunday Thought for the Week, a 'religious information' series about which he joked: "One night the audience at Edgware threw tomatoes at the screen – and they were rationed."

After he went on to gain experience as a producer, he turned a serious script by RF Delderfield, called The Bull Boys, about two ballet dancers being conscripted to the Army, into a comedy – Carry On Sergeant.

The film failed to excite critics, but it was a hit with audiences, making it to number three in the UK box office charts for 1958.

So, Rogers decided to make another film using the same cast line-up of Kenneth Williams, Charles Hawtrey and Kenneth Connors and the next year Carry On Nurse topped the box office charts.

The winning formula of music hall humour, parody, mockery of British institutions and customs, colonial prejudices and a good dose of smut, was placed in various scenarios involving police, a hospital, a school, the Wild West, the Khyber Pass and Ancient Egypt.

Last year, the Royal Mail produced a set of stamps to mark the 50th anniversary of the Carry On films in a celebration of their contribution to British cinema.

The slap-stick Carry On capers did occasionally run into problems with censors, such as over Leslie Phillips' pronunciation of



CLASSICS: Barbara Windsor in Carry On Camping and the genius that was Peter Rogers

Joan Sims' character in Carry On Teacher – Miss Allcock. Rogers was said to rule his set with a "rod of iron" and was famously mean with money, once saying that he would "do anything for my actors except pay them".

The Carry On films were made on a low budget – rarely more than £200,000 – and stars like Sid James and Kenneth Williams made a maximum of £5,000 a film. His female leads fared worse with Barbara Windsor being paid £3,000 and Joan Sims only £2,500.

The EastEnders actor, whose bra flies off in Carry On Camping in a seaside postcard-style scene that epitomises the series, was unavailable for comment on Rogers' death, according to her agent.

Generous

Rogers later answered allegations of being tight-fisted saying that he agreed to pay his actors what their agents asked for.

The columnist Terence Blacker, writing in the Independent, said: "English comedy would always have had busty women, hen-pecked husbands, randy bachelors and joke homosexuals, but it was Rogers' films – even the bad ones – which brought the clichés to life and gave them a human face."

"He may not have been the most generous or creative producer, but Rogers gave a lot of mostly innocent pleasure to the world."

Known as 'Mr Carry On', Rogers continued to commute from his home in Buckinghamshire to his offices at Pinewood Studios until last year. He loved animals and most of the films were made in or near Pinewood so that he would not be separated from his beloved Alsatis.

At the time of his death on Tuesday at home in Buckinghamshire, he was working on a new film – Carry On London, and reports have suggested that it is now unlikely to get off the ground.

After the war he moved to Gainsborough Studios in Islington, as assistant scenario editor and it was there he met his wife, the producer Betty Box. The couple worked together on several projects and Rogers went on to produce a number of children's films.

His wife died in 1999, and the couple had no children.

Lift keeps running

SHEPWAY council's cabinet agreed unanimously on Wednesday to keep the Leas lift running until its lease expires at the end of June.

It is hoped a new operator will be found to keep the Victorian seaside attraction open, possibly in partnership with the council.

A decision to end the lease on the 125-year-old lift was taken at a cabinet meeting last month, but was 'called in' by the corporate scrutiny committee, which asked for the lift to be kept open for the immediate future and beyond.

Provision has now been made in the budget to ensure the lift remains open until June 30.

Help to quit online

HEALTH chiefs in Medway have become the first in the country to launch a virtual stop smoking service.

NHS Medway said when the website www.smokefreemedway.org.uk goes live it will be first of its kind in England. Smokers will have the chance to chat online with experts and other smokers about their addiction, offering advice, tips on how to quit and support.

A Medway Stop Smoking Service spokesman said: "The website will act as a further source of support for the 2,500 smokers in Medway who set a quit day with the team each year."

To see this clip search 'Kent Life' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Kent Life has opened its doors for 2009, as a bigger and better family attraction and a fun-packed day out

Pressure works as British workers given Grain jobs

SKILLED tradesmen embroiled in a 'British jobs for British workers' row have won a small victory in their battle for employment, writes **Steve Knight**.

Following pressure from trade unions Unite and the GMB, two Polish subcontractors helping to build a new gas-fired power station on the Isle of Grain have finally agreed to take on unemployed locals.

Remak and ZRE Katowice will employ between eight and 10 British workers from May 5, with the unions hoping extra positions will soon become available.

Neil Willoughby, regional officer for Unite, said: "It's a small start, but hopefully the acorn will grow into an oak because we will be lobbying for a much larger number. Hundreds of our members are unemployed at the moment so it's important we carry on fighting for them."

Unite has been locked in talks with the firm overseeing the building of the new power station – Alstom – because the union is unhappy there is no clause in the tendering contract that says subcontractors should seek to employ British workers.

It has so far held three protests at the power station this year, with another outside Chatham Jobcentre where more than 500 people applied for work at Grain only to be denied interviews.

The row intensified last month, when a contract leaked to the GMB proved that Remak had been undercutting British workers by paying Polish tradesmen £4 less than the nationally-agreed rate. The issue has since been rectified.

Mr Willoughby said: "I think the lobbying and the protests have certainly helped us persuade the subcontractors to start employing British workers."

"Our relationship with them is improving but if they do not offer more vacancies then we may have to put on even more protests."

An Alstom spokesman said: "We confirm that additional workers are being recruited at the power station construction site on the Isle of Grain and, as we have continually maintained, Alstom and its subcontractors will actively consider UK workers if further vacancies arise."

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Fangs a lot, as good deed proves painful

Snake warning needed in park says bitten man

A CYCLIST who got off his bike to avoid squashing an adder paid for his courtesy when the venomous snake bit him, *writes Steve Knight*.

Peter Blanchard, 39, from Gillingham, was riding through the town's Riverside Country Park last Saturday when he spotted the slippery reptile lying across a path in front of him.

The pipe-fitter has since criticised the local council for not warning people that adders live in the park.

Mr Blanchard said: "The snake looked a bit vicious and I could have just run him over, but I'm not like that so I used my hands to try and shoo it away instead."

"I wish I hadn't now because it hissed and bit me on the finger. It only got me with one of its fangs, but it went right through my cycling glove."

"Not long after that my finger started to go

Picture: DR LEE BRADY



ADDER: Britain's only venomous snake

numb and swell up so I thought I'd better go to hospital. I called them first and they suggested I cycle there to see somebody."

The adder is Britain's only venomous snake and has the most highly-developed venom-injecting mechanism of all snakes.

Venom

According to the Forestry Commission, nobody has died from a bite for more than 20 years and with proper treatment the worst effects are nausea and drowsiness followed by swelling and bruising.

It is rare for people to be bitten by adders, although last year television comedian Paul O'Grady was also attacked by

one at his home in Aldington, near Ashford.

The creatures are timid and will do their best to avoid contact with humans.

Mr Blanchard continued: "As I was making my way to the hospital I saw a policeman so I waved him down and he called East Grinstead Hospital, which apparently has people who specialise in treating venom."

"They asked him to keep an eye on me for a bit so he stayed with me for a couple of hours and even called me later that night, which was really nice of him."

"We went back to the park and the policeman asked the park's staff why they didn't have any signs up to warn of adders and they said it was because they were worried people wouldn't come."

"I like the park, but I think they should have signs up to warn people because a lot of children go there too."

"They have signs telling people about fluffy rabbits, so why not snakes too?"

A council spokesman said: "There are no signs warning visitors about the presence of adders at Riverside Country Park, but we would advise members of the public not to move or touch adders but to report it to one of the park's rangers."

"Adders are not aggressive animals and usually retreat to cover when disturbed rather than bite. They are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981."

Pair found guilty of illegal dumping

A SERIAL fly-tipper from Maidstone has been sentenced after admitting illegally dumping waste.

Nigel John Nash, 32, was arrested with girlfriend Emma Dunn, 33, in November last year.

He pleaded guilty on Wednesday to dumping two tonnes of waste on two dates in August, 2008, in Farleigh Lane and again at Burial Ground Lane, both in Maidstone.

Nash, of Reginald Road, was found guilty of the two offences and two offences of fraud.

He has been sentenced to 120 days imprisonment, suspended for two years, 150 hours of community service, an electronic curfew for six months and has been issued with an Asbo.

Nash was also ordered to pay £340 compensation to KCC for clean-up costs and a further £350 prosecution costs. Dunn received a formal caution from Kent Police.

To see this clip search 'create' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Find out about Ashford's Create music festival after fears funding cuts would threaten its survival

Green would use leaked info again to show mistakes

THE Tory MP who has been at the centre of the political storm which erupted last November, has said the whole scandal could have been avoided if police had just asked to meet him first, *writes Ed Hill*.

Damian Green, who represents Ashford, said: "That was always one of the great stupidities of it, this whole enormous national fuss could have been avoided with a bit of common sense. If the police had just said 'can we come and interview you in your office' there would have been no problem. Of course, I would have co-operated."

On Thursday, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) announced it would not be taking any action against Mr Green or Christopher Galley, the junior Home Office civil servant who leaked the information to the MP.

The Tory spokesman on immigration also said he found it hard to believe that government ministers were not aware of what was going on before police stepped in.

He said: "I don't know what sort of conversations went on inside the Cabinet Office or between ministers and officials in the police. They say they did not know

anything about it beforehand. If they are telling the truth then that is completely extraordinary. How can the police go off and arrest an opposition spokesman without even informing any minister or any official, when those officials have asked for a leak inquiry in the first place? But that is what seems to have happened."

He also vowed that if he was given leaked information again he would not hesitate in using it to expose mistakes made by the Government.

He said: "All governments have suffered leaks and ministers get frustrated by them and ministers will take measures to try and stop them. What is unique in my case is that this ended up with an opposition MP being arrested. There are lots of things that ministers can do before they resort to the police arresting an opposition spokesman."

He accused the Government of overreacting when embarrassing information was made public.

He said: "One of the things that they can do is that when mistakes are made, as they inevitably are, is not to reach for the cover up as their first response."

A case of one pint too many

DRINK driver Harald Noe was shocked to find he was over the limit after drinking a pint of beer.

What Noe, 44, from Faversham, forgot was he had also been boozing the previous night.

He admitted being twice over the drink-drive limit at Canterbury Magistrates Court.

Julie Farbrace, prosecuting, said Noe's VW Polo made a sharp turn into Maynard Road, Wincheap, as police were following it.

Noe was banned for 20 months, fined £150 and ordered to pay £60 costs plus £15 victim surcharge.

Landmark is found unsafe

THE historic Theatre Royal in Chatham will be partially demolished after inspectors deemed the listed building was dangerous.

Contractors started making the derelict theatre safe this week.

A Medway Council spokesman said the work is expected to take up to five weeks to complete.

The inspection was carried out by consulting engineers Wentworth House Partnership on request of the owner of the site, Chatham Housing.

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The world's an intimate stage for Globe tour



GENIUS: William Shakespeare

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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ACTORS from the recreation of William Shakespeare's famous Globe Theatre will visit Kent as part of the summer touring season.

Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, and St Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury will host performances between June and August after successful shows in the county last year.

Performed on a small Elizabethan-style stage, two troupes of eight travelling players will perform scaled-down productions of two of the Bard's works: *The Comedy of Errors* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Producer James Erskine said the tour gave theatregoers a different experience to that offered inside the Globe itself.

He said: "It's very honest storytelling. We can't use fancy lighting or sound effects. It's all about the text, the performers and their relationship with the audience, because they will actually be able to see their faces now."

"In fact it's more like a crowd than an audience because people can bring their own chairs and sit wherever they like, and the actors often walk among them while performing their lines. I always think it's more like stand-up comedy."

Aside from the performances in Kent, Globe actors will also be appearing at beautiful locations throughout the country, as well as in Norway and Germany.

Mr Erskine said: "Even when the early Renaissance theatres were first built, companies would still tour the country because it extended the life of the productions and there were always more people who wanted to see them."

"The people at Leeds Castle and St Augustine's Abbey have been great and a pleasure to work with. We're looking forward to continuing that good relationship."

"Both are fantastic places to perform at."

The *Comedy of Errors* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are comedies and Mr Erskine said his team was confident of putting on good shows for the people of Kent.

He said: "I think *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is the one play everyone knows, so it sells itself really."

"The *Comedy of Errors* is a great way in to Shakespeare, because you can see the origins of great British comedies such as the *Carry On* films."

"It's just so funny. It's also Shakespeare's short-

est play, so that might appeal to some people."

The *Comedy of Errors* will be performed at St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, between July 14 and 19.

A Midsummer Night's Dream will be at Leeds Castle, Maidstone, between June 30 and July 5, and at St Augustine's Abbey between August 12 and 16. Tickets cost between £13 and £20 and can be booked at the Globe box office on 020 7401 9919 or by visiting www.shakespeares-globe.org.

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BARD TO VERSE: Shakespeare's Globe on Tour 2009 will visit two Kent venues



Pictures: J ERSKINE

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By **CHRIS MURPHY**

A FORMER Army colonel was reunited with his medals when they turned up on eBay 18 years after they were stolen.

A dealer in Norfolk was selling them in good faith when the former soldier's son-in-law spotted them by pure chance.

Col Graeme Olley, known to everyone as John, said: "I just can't believe I have got them back after so long."

It emerged his son-in-law Simon Hathaway was at his home in Weston-Super-Mare looking at random items on the popular internet auction site.

Col Olley said at his home in Saltwood, near Hythe: "He was looking at medals or anything like that – just glancing through random pages. But then he saw these medals and spotted that one of them was engraved with my name."

"He called me to let me know and then I called Folkestone police."

"They in turn got on it like a shot and called the police in Norfolk who went to see this dealer who handed them over without any payment being made."

Recognised

"I should imagine the medals had changed hands many times since they were stolen in the burglary and the police think as much too."

The medals were stolen along with china and silverware during the theft in May, 1991, from his Kent home.

The 78-year-old, who served as a Colonel with the Royal Engineers, received an MBE in 1958 after working in Borneo to make a major river navigable on behalf of the Government. He was also awarded the General Service Medal for a tour of duty in Malaya between 1956-59

eBay search unites retired colonel with stolen medals



HAPPY: Col Olley with his medals

and was recognised for services to his country with a Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977.

He said: "I really didn't think I would see them again. Having my name engraved on the General Service medal made it easy for Simon,

who was a Met police officer, to spot."

"There was also the original citation that went with the MBE so it was obvious they belonged to me."

He added: "It's just beyond belief really that all these years later there should be a set of circumstances like that."

The Norfolk dealer was asking £765 for the medals, but gladly handed them over when told they had been stolen, said police.

Sentimental

Col Olley said: "They never caught the burglar as far as I know, but I am much happier the medals have been recovered. They mean so much to me – they really do have huge sentimental value."

A Kent police spokesman said: "We are pleased with the way this has turned out. Certainly the dealer who had them was happy to hand them over to police when he realised their background."

Duo used children in crime

TWO serial shoplifters who used children as human shields have been jailed.

Lisa Jones, 27, and Douglas Dance, 32, from Ramsgate, were caught trying to steal from Boots in Whitefriars, Canterbury. They had two children with them.

A CCTV operator spotted Dance and Jones stealing on April 5.

Ten days previously Thanet magistrates had given them 120-day suspended sentences for theft.

Julie Farbrace, prosecuting at Canterbury magistrates court, said that as security staff closed in the couple tried to use the children

as shields. Then Jones, a former heroin addict, smashed a fire-alarm in a bid to cause a panic which would cover their escape.

The pair admitted theft and Jones admitted a criminal damage charge.

Karen Chaplin, defending Dance, said he had decided to steal to pay a £100 drug debt.

Dance was sent to prison for 270 days as magistrates activated the 120-day suspended sentence on top of 150 days they imposed.

Jones was jailed for 120 days and the 120-day suspended sentence was added consecutively.



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Thousands applying to try controversial cash for weight loss scheme

AN "overwhelming" 2,200 people have applied to take part in an NHS weight loss scheme that offers cash rewards of more than £400.

The initiative is being trialled by NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent where around £200 million a year is spent treating patients for diseases linked to being obese or overweight, such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

Among the overweight hopefuls to apply for one of the 400 places on the scheme were 40 nurses from the east of the county, where one in four people are obese.

The primary care trust (PCT) has commissioned Weight Wins, a private firm based in London, to run the scheme.

A company spokeswoman said: "There was an overwhelming public response. The Kent participants are a keen lot: 98 per cent of personal weight loss plans were for six months or more, and 67 per cent were 12 months or more."

She said although it is early days, the slimmers were on track to mirror the performance of a previous trial, which saw participants lose an average of nearly two stones after nine months.

Rewards range from £70 for shedding 15lbs

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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to £425 for losing 50lb and keeping it off for six months.

The 'pounds for pounds' programme has faced criticism for being a waste of taxpayers' money and for not promoting long-term weight loss. But the country is facing an obesity crisis and health bosses nationally will be keeping a close eye on the results of the Kent trial to see if it is a success.

Indications

Nationally more than 9,000 people a year die prematurely from obesity. The Government predicts that by 2015 taxpayers will be spending £448m treating the obese and overweight.

Clare Martin, the PCT's public health specialist, said: "NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent is committed to putting in place long-term preventions that are going to save the NHS money. If people are going on and becoming very obese then you are looking at very expensive surgical procedures."

"There are all sorts of diseases – coronary heart disease, cancers, strokes, hypertension

and high cholesterol. If we can get people to be a bit more active now it will impact on all these mortalities. What we want to do is invest in schemes that help people stay healthy and live longer and productive lives."

Ms Martin said the PCT had invested in a range of programmes to help people lose weight including an exercise referral programme.

She said that achieving a healthy weight was complex and different levels of service needed to be put in place for different people.

She said: "It is difficult to say how we are going because we are in such early stages. However, the early indications are that people are finding it quite helpful."

Asked whether people would pile the pounds back on after claiming their cash reward, she said: "What we do not know is whether offering financial incentives like this is more effective in the short-term or long-term, which is why we are running this trial."

The trial is set to run for 13 months and after that the PCT will follow up to see whether participants have kept the weight off. An interim report is due after six months.

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Lord takes train journey to learn of rail problems

TRANSPORT minister Lord Adonis this week travelled through Kent as part of a six-day national rail tour.

As his journey, aimed at giving 'first-hand experience' of the railways, took him through the county on Wednesday he met up with Roger Gale, the Tory MP for Thanet North and Paul Clark, the MP for Gillingham and a fellow transport minister.

Problems faced by rail passengers in the county have been well documented in KoS.

Southeastern, which operates trains into London from Kent, is allowed to charge inflation-busting fares under its franchise agreement with the Department for Transport.

The rail company argues it has spent millions on railway infrastructure including the new High Speed 1 link to St Pancras, which launches in December this year.

However, passenger groups argue only 15 per cent of train-users will be able to use the high-speed service and commuters across the county face overcrowding and longer journey times.

Commuters in Kent pay more for regulated fares than the rest of the country because Southeastern bases its annual increases on the retail price index (RPI) plus three per cent.

Other rail companies work to the formula of the RPI plus one per cent.

Lord Adonis has spoken about how, if the RPI for this July is negative, then for the first time in three years, Kent passengers could see much lower fare increases.

Mr Gale said that during their journey on the 9.04am from Margate to Faversham, the transport minister listened and "responded positively" to his concerns.

The transport minister travelled through England and Scotland on a 2,200-mile trip using a standard class Rail Rover ticket.

Free static caravans – and there's no hitch

A HOLIDAY home company is offering free caravans at Dymchurch and Isle of Sheppey.

The offer comes from Park Holidays UK, which runs 25 parks across the UK, including six in Kent.

But some of its static caravans are now ageing and so the company is offering them free to anyone who wants one.

The only cost is land rental of between £1,800 and £4,000, depending on its position, and is typically about £2,100.

The new owner will also have to pay a £400 fee for the connection of water and power.

After the first year's fees, the owner could take their new caravan elsewhere, having paid a £350 utility disconnection fee.

A Park Holidays UK spokesman said: "These are not caravans that can be hitched the back of a car. They are quite large and would need a low-loader to move. But they are free of charge, and the new owner can do what they like with it after the first year."

"The caravans are quite old, about 15 years in some cases. But they have been well loved by the previous owners. They



HOME FROM HOME: Park Holidays UK caravans are now available free at Dymchurch and Sheppey, says Tony Clish

come with everything inside. It would be very unfair to say they were tatty in any way. They have had love and money lavished on them."

The free caravans come complete with furniture, carpets,

appliances and beds. They will be fully safety checked before handover. Facilities at the Dymchurch park, called New Beach, include a heated indoor pool, nature walks, adventure playground, entertainment complex, amusement centre, kids club, café and lounge bar.

They are also on offer at Harts Holiday Park on the Isle of Sheppey.

Tony Clish, company director at Park Holidays UK, said: "We're happy to offer units for free. Especially if it gives people the encouragement they need to get their foot on the second-property ladder."

He said they are becoming available as owners trade up to newer models.

"Sales of new holiday homes have been running at about 10 per cent above last year's levels," he said. "At the same time, we are increasing the number of pitches at our parks, which means we can find space for units being traded in."

Availability of free caravans is regularly updated on the company website at www.parkholidaysuk.com.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

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THE Government has named Dungeness as a possible site for a new nuclear power station.

The announcement was welcomed by Kent County Council, but green campaigners have reacted with dismay.

Officials revealed a list of 11 potential sites, including Dungeness which is already home to two nuclear stations, A and B. People have a month to register objections to the proposal.

The new power plants would cost an estimated £4.5 billion each and could provide power for two million homes for 60 years.

They wouldn't come online until at least 2017, leaving a gap in supply as coal-fired stations come to the end of their lives.

That gap could be filled by gas-fired stations, which are relatively quick and easy to build, and one is currently under construction on the Isle of Grain.

There are also controversial plans for a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

Dungeness A stopped producing power in 2006, and the turbine hall is due to be demolished next year.

Energy secretary Ed Miliband said: "Nuclear power is part of the low-carbon future. It also has the potential to offer thousands of jobs to the UK and multi-million-pound opportunities to British businesses."

John Cridland, the deputy director-general of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), said: "We need a national planning statement on nuclear building as soon as possible."

"Even now it will probably be 2017 before any nuclear stations come online. Further delay could be disastrous."

But Barrie Botley, co-ordinator of Kent Against Radioactive Environment (Kare), is opposed to a new Dungeness power station.

He said: "I am totally against this. Nuclear power is dangerous, expensive and unnecessary."

"Dungeness is on a shingle spit prone to erosion. It is also on a flood plain, according to the Environment Agency's website. If there was a flood, the power station would become an island."

"And with predicted sea level rises over the coming decades, Dungeness is not a good position for a nuclear power station."

"They also intend to store highly radioactive spent fuel on site for the lifetime of the power station, which is 60 years, and at least 40 years during decommissioning. So you are looking at storing this material for 100 years on a flood plain."

But Cllr Keith Ferrin, KCC's cabinet member for the environment, highways and waste, said: "We are delighted Dungeness is among the sites and we hope a new nuclear plant will be built there as soon as possible. We are also pressing for the establish-

Reactions mixed over Dungeness

ment of a branch of the Nuclear Academy at Dungeness to enable people in Kent to benefit from the job opportunities that will be offered by the new nuclear power station programme."

French power company EDF Energy confirmed it had put forward Dungeness for consideration, but will probably not be the developer of any new station.

It owns the land at the site and said it believes it has potential to be a good location for a new nuclear build.

Director of planning Richard Mayson said: "This is a further step in our plans for new nuclear build and a demonstration of our intention to play a leading role in the UK nuclear revival."

"Any new build would follow a full planning process, including appropriate consultation with the community."

• Visit www.nuclearpowersiting.decc.gov.uk to have your say on the Government's plans.



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DUNGENESS: This isolated part of Kent has been included on a list of possible new nuclear sites

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Why Nick Howard followed God instead of politics

THE preacher son of former Tory leader Michael Howard is out to prove that religion has more of an impact on people's lives than politics.

Rather than follow in the footsteps of his Folkestone and Hythe MP father, 33-year-old Nick Howard instead chose to spread the word of the Bible and says he could not be happier with his decision.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday following the release of his first book – 24 Hours That Changed the World – Mr Howard said his parents were supportive of his way of life.

He said: "They don't share my beliefs but we get on very well. I think at the time I became a Christian they had a 'let's wait and see what happens' mentality, but they didn't try to stop me."

"I did think about following my father into politics quite seriously but then I started looking at the differences between that and religion."

"Politics definitely changes people's lives but only because we are pushed in a certain direction depending on which party is in power. But religion has been changing me from the inside out for years and has been taking me where I want to go in life."

"I just don't think politics can have the same level of impact on people's lives."

A self-confessed television and film buff, Mr Howard followed the same structure as the popular American drama 24 when writing 24 Hours That Changed the World.

But rather than follow a day in the life of govern-

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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ment agent Jack Bauer, the book's main character is Jesus and the day includes His crucifixion.

Mr Howard said: "I wanted to get the Christian message across to people who have never really heard about it before, and I think using a television programme like 24 helps build that bridge."

"Everything Jesus says in my book is taken straight from the Bible because I didn't want to put words into His mouth. The Bible is God's book and is a message to us from start to finish, which is one of the reasons why it's the world's best-selling book by streets and miles."

"When people open it they realise it's God speaking to them, but with modern Britain it's all about Britain's Got Talent and the X Factor, so it's difficult to spread the word."

Desperate for answers to some of life's biggest mysteries, Mr Howard found religion as a schoolboy when he was invited to a church meeting by two friends.

He says it was one of the best decisions of his life and that he wrote 24 Hours That Changed the World because he "can't invite everyone to church".

Earlier this year Mr Howard's mother Sandra spoke to Kent on Sunday about the release of her latest novel, A Matter of Loyalty.

Her son, who lives in Gravesend, said the two of them had enjoyed comparing each other's sales.

He added: "I've actually been doing a bit better

than her recently but she's sold a lot more in total and has made a lot more money than I have, too."

"But I very much enjoyed writing my book even if it was really hard work. I just had to read it over and over again to try to improve it, but even now it's published I still open it and spot a mistake and my heart sinks."

"I would love to write another."

24 Hours That Changed the World, which is published by Authentic Media, is available to buy at www.amazon.co.uk priced £2.99.



LIKE MOTHER LIKE SON:
Nick Howard has just had his first book published following in his mother, Sandra's (far left), footsteps, rather than politics like his father MP Michael Howard (left)



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Kent workers going back to the land as recession bites



SALAD DAYS: Thanet Earth will employ about 550 people when the huge project is fully operational

Hundreds apply for 30 farm jobs

THE recession is forcing more Kent workers to turn to low-paid jobs as farm labourers.

State-of-the-art glasshouse project Thanet Earth received more than 200 applications for just 30 jobs it was revealed this week, with all but three of the candidates UK nationals.

The South East branch of the National Farmers' Union (NFU) said there had been recent increase in the amount of British people showing interest in seasonal farm work.

Nicola Outlaw, director of Kent Staff, which supplies workers for Thanet Earth, near Birchington, said: "There is high unemployment in Thanet and it is a very prestigious site which has had a lot of media coverage, and I think people are interested."

Hydroponics

"Authorities in the area and people who work with the unemployed have been actively pressing people to look at the lower-paid jobs as well."

The jobs at the 220-acre site pay the minimum wage of £5.73 an hour.

When the project, which uses hydroponics – nutrient-rich water rather than soil – to grow cucumbers, tomatoes and peppers, is completed next year it will provide about 550 jobs. It is expected to boost salad crop production in the UK by 15 per cent.

However, Ms Outlaw said although British workers were eager to apply for low-paid jobs at Thanet Earth, the same trend had not been seen at the fruit packing houses that Kent Staff supplies.

NFU South East said it was seeing a similar trend in

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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growing numbers of British workers applying for seasonal jobs in agriculture, but there was still a shortage of farm labourers.

Sandra Nichols, the NFU's senior policy advisor, said: "There is some anecdotal evidence, members have reported quite a bit of interest from UK nationals."

"It's brilliant, because this hasn't been the case before. But we are in a recession and unemployment is much higher, so it's not a long-term solution."

She said the NFU was lobbying the Government for longer-term changes to ensure an adequate labour source for the industry.

The Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS) ends next year, which gives permits to overseas workers to be employed on UK farms.

Ms Nichols said the number of permits for this year had been reduced to 16,250, but after lobbying it was increased to 21,250.

Only labourers from Bulgaria and Romania can take part in SAWS.

"We are lobbying for changes to the benefits system so it is easier for UK nationals to do seasonal agriculture work, which is difficult at the moment due to the requirements of the job seeker's allowance," Ms Nichols said.

"We also want to allow more seasonal workers to come from outside the EU. We still have a problem that we do not have enough workers."

"There are a few more because of the recession, but that is a temporary, short-term change."

Organic growers pay the price

ORGANIC farms are beginning to feel the pinch as shoppers tackle the recession by opting for cheaper food, **writes Steve Knight**.

According to The Soil Association – the industry's biggest certification body – a dip in sales of organic products is leading to about eight farms a month revoking their memberships and returning to more traditional methods.

Matthew Britton, manager of organic Jubilee Farm near Canterbury, said he could see why.

He said: "If it was my farm, I'd be thinking of pulling out of organics because they're not premium products any more. We have a farm shop, but business has been quiet since before it was announced the UK was in recession."

"The livestock side of conventional farming has gone through the roof due to the weakness of the pound, but organics are not holding up."

Britain's organic sector has boomed in recent years, and now includes about 5,500 farmers and other growers. There are also more than 2,500 processors,

importers and other businesses, with sales of more than £2 billion a year. Kent is home to farms that have been selling organic products for more than 20 years.

Luddesdown Organic Farm, near Cobham, has been a member of the Soil Association since 1986 and manager Gerry Minister said there was no chance of the relationship being discontinued.

He said: "We only carry out organic farming here, so we are in it for the duration. We have a hard core of customers who wouldn't be without it."

"I think the market will pick up before any farms around here decide they don't want to do organics any more, because people will always want to know where their food has come from. During a recession it's important we all support each other, whether that's by going to your local pub, shop, farm or whatever."

Andrew Ward, of Ivy House Farm, near Canterbury, said: "It's difficult to know what effect the recession will have on us yet because we don't have lots of vegetables until summer and autumn. That's when we'll find out, but at the moment we're doing fine."

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What's your poison?

Professor to delve into the twisted minds of notorious murderers in university talk

THE INTRIGUING and sinister world of infamous poisoners is set to be explored in a special lecture at a university.

John Nicholson, professor of biomaterials at the University of Greenwich, said his interest in poisons stemmed from his work and

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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research into areas such as new drug delivery systems.

He then found that poison killings such as the cases of Dr Hawley Crippen and Graham

Young provided subject matter that could spark an audience's interest in chemistry.

Dr Crippen, who was hanged in 1910 for poisoning his wife, has continued to capture the imagination of scientists and recently a group of American researchers have said their DNA tests cast doubt on his conviction.

But Prof Nicholson is unconvinced by the new evidence, he said: "They claim that the remains found in the basement were not those of his wife."

"It is slightly improbable, they are using cutting edge techniques and I think they have pushed the test a bit too far."

"There are other bits of circumstantial evidence that favour it was Mrs Crippen."

Panicked

The new research is also based on the fact that the body found in the Dr Crippen case does not tally with the way in which poisoners usually dispose of their victims.

"I think it was because he did not expect to kill her," Prof Nicholson said. "He was not a conventional doctor, he was a homeopath, and did not know about drug dosage."

"What he gave her was probably designed to calm her down, but he gave her too much and panicked."

Police only recovered parts of Mrs Crippen's remains in the basement. Her head, skeleton and limbs were never found. Prof Nicholson says murderers that use poisons tended to claim that their victims had died from a disease.

"Poisons cause diarrhoea and sickness and in the days when we had bad water and cholera was common, people did die of that



SADISTIC: 'Teacup Poisoner' Graham Young killed five people in the 1960s and 70s

sort of thing. So victims looked like they had just been ill so they were buried and disposed of as if they had died from illness."

He said most poisoners are found out because they have killed so many times that it becomes suspicious, he said: "It is very rare for them to be detected the first time."

Graham Young, a sadistic poisons fanatic, was able to buy his deadly materials over the counter and killed three people including his stepmother in the early 1960s and then two of his work colleagues after he was released from Broadmoor mental asylum in the 1970s.

Prof Nicholson said: "He is interesting because they changed the law after him because you used to be able to buy chemicals from a shop. The new Poisons Act came in with stricter regulations."

He was dubbed the Teacup Poisoner and befriended fellow serial killer Moors murderer Ian Brady in prison.

The most recent murder covered in Prof Nicholson's lecture is the 'devious and dangerous' John Allen, who was jailed for life in 2000 for poisoning his wealthy girlfriend with cyanide.

He spiked her gin and tonic during a holiday to Egypt and watched as she suffocated.

Prof Nicholson said: "Criminals do not tend to use cyanide because it works so quickly. It is difficult to detect from the point of view of its chemistry because it is like eating acid."

"Two people watched her die who tried to help but he wouldn't let them. They saw the signs and symptoms, which are so striking that was all part of the evidence."

Witnesses described the intense colour of blue in her fingers and lips, and told how she was foaming at the mouth.

Another gruesome tale in the lecture is that of Dr William Palmer, one of the most notorious criminals of the 19th century who killed his children with strychnine.

The debt-ridden gambler claimed they were too expensive, Prof Nicholson said.

• **The lecture *Poisons: Chemistry and Criminals* is being held at the University of Greenwich at Medway next Wednesday.**

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GBH charge over near-fatal assault

A GILLINGHAM man has been charged in connection with an early-morning assault which left a man fighting for his life.

James Alexander Brown, 37, of Portland Road, is charged with GBH with intent. He has been remanded in custody.

Officers were called to Sturdee Avenue, Gillingham, at 3.15am on Sunday, April 12, where they found a 41-year-old man with severe head injuries.

Police believe the assault occurred during a confrontation after a group of people, who had been socialising in Gillingham town centre, had returned to a house party.

The injured man was taken to hospital in London and remains in a critical condition.

'Psychology could help social workers prevent next Baby P'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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SOCIAL workers should make better use of psychology to reduce the chances of another Baby P-type tragedy occurring, says an expert in the field.

Professor David Shemmings, a lecturer at the University of Kent, believes the industry needs to focus more on staff training so social workers are able to identify potential child abuse cases early.

One technique he says should be used more often is that of 'story stem completion', which involves presenting the child in question with a scenario and asking them what might happen next.

Prof Shemmings said: "The responses given by children being abused often differ greatly from those who are not.

"One fairly well-known story is that mum and dad have gone out for the evening and the child is going to be looked after by the babysitter next door.

"Children who are being abused sometimes end the story by saying they are abducted or beaten by the babysitter, or are left with them forever because their parents don't come back.

"If a child is experiencing abuse from any adult, they tend to form the view that they are unlovable.

"It's not a fool-proof technique and can only be used on children of a certain age, but it's a useful starting point for social workers. It's vital to understand how a particular child's mind works."



FOCUS: Prof David Shemmings says social workers need more training in how a young child's mind works

Last month, Lord Laming's inquiry into children's services in the UK was published, containing 58 recommendations as to how youngsters can be further protected from harm.

These included improving the quality of social work qualifications and drawing up a national strategy to address recruitment and retention problems.

Prof Shemmings said of the report: "I think the general consensus is there are a lot of good things in it, but I think we need to look at the extent social workers have to sit in front of their computers. We need to concentrate on making them feel confident and competent in following up what they might see in people's homes.

"You will never stop some parents and carers harming or killing their children. But what we can do is help social workers be more aware of when it occurs and what should happen next."

Prof Shemmings, who will be giving

an open lecture at the university next month entitled Child Protection and Social Work: What Needs to Change?, has been studying social work with children and families for more than 20 years.

He is also the author of the Department of Health-sponsored training pack In On The Act, concerning the involvement of children in decision-making processes within the child protection system.

Prof Shemmings admitted the profession had taken a battering in the wake of the Baby P scandal, but said it was unwarranted.

He said: "The national press do seem to treat

social workers differently to those in other professions. For example, when it was revealed Harold Shipman had been killing his patients, nobody started accusing their own GPs of being serial killers.

"It's dreadfully unhelpful to a profession like ours when social workers have to get on and do a job that's very difficult."

• Child Protection and Social Work: What Needs to Change? takes place at the University of Kent's Woolf College, between 6pm and 7pm on Tuesday, May 5. Refreshments will be served from 5.30pm.



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Cathedral aims to spread the word

Marketing plan to pull tourists to the 'product'

KENT'S top historic tourist traps should market themselves as export products, says a leading expert, *writes Chris Murphy*.

Chris Lowsley, an international trade adviser with UK Trade and Investment South East, said the centre of the Anglican world should be seen as a major force in the market for exports, along with the host of other Kent attractions.

He said: "It's not the normal way you think of exporting, but it actually makes sense."

"The South East has a wealth of famous, historical sites – Canterbury Cathedral, Hever Castle, Leeds Castle to name but a few – and they function like small companies in that they want to attract, retain and generate income from foreign sources, yet they might not think of themselves in terms of a 'product' that they could export."

"They may struggle to target international markets and not focus on where their customers are coming from overseas."

His radical thinking has the backing from the cathedral.

Therese Hislop, head of its visitor services, attended a presentation Mr Lowsley gave for the tourist board Visit Kent. She had already analysed where the cathedral's visitors were coming from, and identified that a large number were from the United States.

She said: "The tourist board organised a presentation about a market visit to the USA, and Chris was there looking to help companies that didn't have a traditional 'product' to sell."

"He had a very genuine interest in the cathedral and the 'product'."



EXPANSION: Therese Hislop, head of the cathedral's visitor service, is pleased with progress

"The income stream from school and tourist trips is very important to us, but we don't have the resources to try to enter new markets or even consolidate our position in existing ones."

"In fact, we wouldn't have been able to go on the USA market visit if it were not for Passport to Export."

This is a programme lasting up to 18 months from UK Trade and Investment to help new and inexperienced exporters understand and target international customers.

As well as a full company diagnostic and development of an export action plan, they said the programme provides subsidised training, up to £1,500 of matched funding to implement export plans, and an experienced adviser to offer guidance.

Mr Lowsley looked through the portfolio of activities and opportunities Ms Hislop had identified and highlight areas of her plans where UKTI could help, offering financial assistance with marketing materials and website translation costs, as well as advice on cultural issues.

He said: "When you're targeting overseas markets, you need to bear cultural differences in mind. It can be especially important when dealing with countries like China to be culturally sensitive."

"I advised Therese to have the Chinese

characters on the information leaflets checked."

"Simplified characters are commonly used in China, but users of traditional characters, such as in Taiwan, may be offended by their use on a leaflet intended for them."

Germany is another target market, and the cathedral has applied to UKTI for overseas exhibition support.

The UKTI also runs what is called a Solo scheme. Using £1,000 of Solo support, Ms Hislop was able to travel to the RDA workshop in Cologne, Europe's leading trade show for coach tour operators.

She said: "That was the start of my focus on Germany, which has a very strong, mature coach tours market."

"I've been twice since, and we've got the coach market in Germany all sewn up. I now have a PR agent in Germany and, at the moment, it's our only growth market, with a number of new tour operators bringing sustained business to the cathedral."

Ms Hislop now plans to obtain Solo funding for a visit to eastern Europe, an important emerging market for Canterbury Cathedral and has since advised her counterpart at St Paul's Cathedral to contact his local UKTI office in London.

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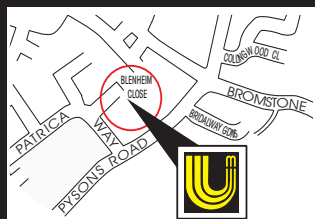
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Keyhole workshop held to boost skills

MEDWAY Maritime Hospital hosted workshops for orthopaedic consultants from around the world last week.

The arthroscopy workshops, which were run in conjunction with the University of London, concerned the examination and treatment of knees, shoulders, wrists and ankles.

Nineteen orthopaedic consultants and registrars gave talks, five of whom work for Medway NHS Foundation Trust.

Andrew Horne, chief executive of Medway NHS Foundation Trust, who attended and officially welcomed the attendees, said: "The day was all about giving surgeons hands-on training and the chance to enhance their keyhole surgery skills. Practising this for themselves in some simulation workshops was a vital part of the day for the delegates."

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Kent's grand designs

Picture: NIALL McLAUGHLIN ARCHITECTS



1

By JENNA PUDELEK

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN ECO-HOME featured on Channel 4's Grand Designs is among the Kent buildings short-listed for prestigious architectural awards.

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has announced that eight sites across the county are among 13 in the South East that could scoop accolades at the organisation's national awards in May.

Crossway in Staplehurst, which was designed by architect and owner Richard Hawkes, is now listed among other amazing homes in the top 10 Grand Designs ever from the popular show.

It is one of the first zero-carbon houses in the country and harnesses solar-energy to generate all of its own electricity and thermal energy.

Impressive

The celebrated building was created using local materials and crafts from the Weald and shows how these can be integrated with new technologies to produce a sustainable home.

A spokeswoman from RIBA South East said the buildings nominated for awards were usually visited by the shortlisting panel, which include members of RIBA branches and other architects.

The experts look at the sites to ensure that photographs of buildings are as impressive in reality or even to see if they are better than the image sent into the organisation.

She said: "They are all quality buildings, which have something of interest and rele-

Eight sites in county make architectural awards night

vance architecturally. There is such a huge proportion in Kent that it is promising."

The Joiners Shop at Chatham Historic Dockyard, by Baynes and Mitchell Architects in west London with Bennetts Associates Architects has also been nominated.

Deal Pier, by Niall McLaughlin Architects in north west London and Leigh Technology Academy in Dartford also by architects based in the capital, BDP, made the list. Three private homes by London-based architects were also listed as well as Quarterhouse in Folkestone by Alison Brooks Architects in London.

All RIBA award winners, which are announced on May 21, will be eligible for the prestigious RIBA Stirling Prize and a number of special awards including the CABE Public Space Award and the Stephen Lawrence Prize, for the architects of the best building with a budget of less than £1 million.

The RIBA Stirling Prize and the special awards will be announced live on Channel 4 at a dinner at Old Billingsgate in the City on October 17.

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4

STRUCTURALLY SOUND: Eight sites in Kent have been nominated by the Royal Institute of British Architects, including 1) Deal Pier; 2) Leigh Technology Academy in Dartford; 3) Crossway in Staplehurst; 4) The Joiners Shop at Chatham Historic Dockyard and 5) Quarterhouse in Folkestone

Picture: DENNIS GILBERT



5

Anti-social drivers get nasty surprise

MOTORISTS who organised a car meet on a social networking website were shocked to find the police had turned up before them.

Last Saturday, officers set up a check-point in Sovereign Way, Tonbridge, and, using automatic number plate-reading technology, stopped 50 cars suspected of being driven in an anti-social manner.

A total of 40 traffic-related offences were dealt with, including punishing those drivers whose cars had tinted front windows.

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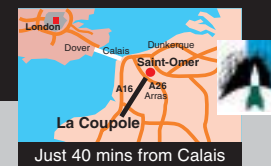
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Create a legal drugs market for addicts, argues think-tank

A REPORT showing that legalising and regulating drugs would save the UK billions of pounds has been welcomed by a leading academic.

Dr Alex Stevens, senior researcher at the European Institute of Social Services at the University of Kent, said although he questioned the figures quoted in the study, it

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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was important to be debating the issues.

Key findings of the groundbreaking report by the think-tank Transform Drug Policy Foundation indicate the current policy of drug prohibition is achieving the opposite of the

Government's aims. Drug supply and availability are increasing, and the use of drugs that cause the most harm – such as heroin – is rising, as is damage to health, it found.

Huge levels of crime are being created and illicit drug profits are making criminals richer and fuelling conflict in countries such as Mexico and Afghanistan.

A system of legal regulation for drugs would

save the Treasury £10 billion a year, Transform said. Dr Stevens, secretary of the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy, said: "It is absolutely right we should be looking at the costs and benefits of regulating drugs."

"There is evidence to suggest that being strict in enforcing laws does not have much effect on the use of drugs."

"Portugal decriminalised all drug use in 2001 and there has been no rise in drug taking – it has actually fallen and there has been a massive reduction in drug-related deaths."

"The Netherlands, which has not legalised but de-penalised the use of cannabis, has not seen an increase. In fact, it has lower rates of use than we do."

He criticised the Government's recent reclassification of cannabis as a Class B substance, which went against the continuing recommendations of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

"When it was downgraded there was a continued reduction in use," he said.

"So, it risks wasting more police time and harming more young people through criminalising them for using cannabis."

Dr Stevens said only a small minority who use drugs develop problems with addiction.

He said: "Most people try it just once or a few times, then stop. The highest rates are among 16 to 24-year-olds."

"The problems are in deprived areas, in people with mental health issues or who have suffered neglect, abuse or bereavement."

"Some people do develop problems with addiction and the majority of them fall into these groups."

Prohibition

Dr Stevens questioned Transform's claims that a move to legally regulated drug markets would save £10bn, saying it was an overestimate.

"It is a very good thing that we should be debating these issues," he said.

"But a lot more research is needed into the effects of loosening the control of drugs."

He said countries with less strict controls, such as Portugal, did not seem to have suffered the dire consequences that had been predicted.

"I think we should reduce the use of enforcement and maintain the increase in drug treatment seen over the last 10 years," he added.

"Also there has been a 150 per cent increase in the number of years that courts give in prison sentences."

"There is no evidence to show that increasing the number and length of prison sentences has any effect on drug use."

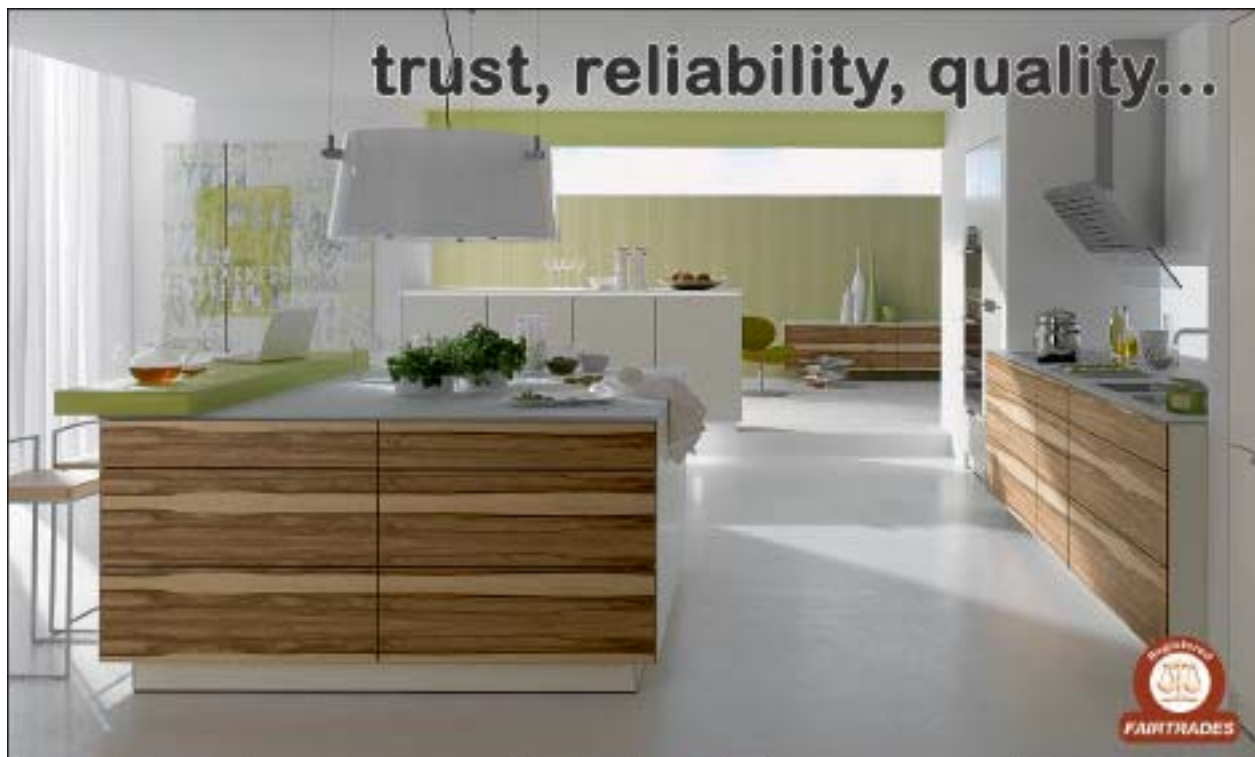
Transform's study found the huge levels of crime being created by prohibition were leading to a crisis in the criminal justice system.

Steve Rolles, head of research at the think-tank, said: "It is unconscionable that UK drug enforcement spending continues to deliver such appalling outcomes, while remaining immune to scrutiny and evaluation."

He said the study, published last week, was the first of its kind and called for a comprehensive impact assessment into the real costs of drug policy and an exploration of alternative approaches.



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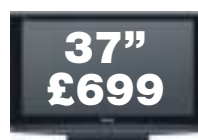
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Celebrating 25 years of Neighbourhood Watch in Kent Still keeping them peeled

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CRIME-fighting community leaders have joined police in celebrating 25 years of Kent's Neighbourhood Watch.

Today there are more than 6,000 Watches looking out for more than 300,000 households in the county, with sister schemes – such as Horse Watch and Farm Watch – now commonplace.

Kent Police's Neighbourhood Watch structure has proved so successful that it has been copied by forces in Belgium and Spain, with others in North America considering similar schemes.

Neighbourhood Watch groups are made up of teams of volunteers who work in partnership with the police and local council.

They distribute advice on security and safety, and alert the community when there is a particular crime problem in their area.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, long-serving volunteer Robert Akehurst received a special award for two decades of dedication to the service from the High Sheriff of Kent, Richard Oldfield.

Mr Akehurst, who owns a farm at Denton, near Dover, joined Neighbourhood Watch in



SHARP LOOKOUT: From left, Assistant Chief constable Allyn Thomas, Robert Akehurst, High Sheriff Richard Oldfield and Temporary Assistant Chief Constable Steve Harris

1989 and is now chairman of its countywide governing body.

He said: "It came as a bit of a surprise to be recognised in this way, but I'm very honoured. It's not just for me, but all the scheme's members throughout the county and I accepted it with them in mind."

"As well as helping fight crime, Neighbourhood Watch improves the commu-

nity spirit that seems to have waned in recent years. I believe in the initiative because it's clearly the right thing to do."

"The more people there are looking out for each other, the less likely it becomes that criminal activity will go unnoticed."

As well as the thousands of volunteers working with the Neighbourhood Watch in Kent, there are also 10 police liaison officers

and one countywide liaison officer. There are 10 area associations and from each, a member is elected to sit on the board of the Kent County Neighbourhood Watch Association, which Mr Akehurst chairs.

Last year more than 522,000 emails were sent to Watches throughout the county, in addition to 198,000 voice messages.

Mr Akehurst said: "I was approached in the early days by one of the liaison officers and I thought it was a really good idea."

"I'm all for anything that helps the police fight crime, and if you don't have a go yourself then you can't criticise them."

"There's always been a need for Neighbourhood Watch and perhaps even more so as crime seems to be a lot more organised these days."

"When I first started, it was just phone calls and newsletters. Today we communicate through emails and texts – and we have a great partnership with the police."

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'Improving' college can merge, says Whitehall

THE planned merger between South Kent College and West Kent College in Tonbridge has taken a giant stride forward after receiving Government backing.

Education minister Sion Simon has given his approval, paving the way for the new 'super college' to open in September.

It will see the Jemmett Road campus in Ashford – along with buildings in Folkestone and Dover and Ashford School of Art and Design – come under the management of West Kent College chiefs.

West Kent principal Bill Fearon has suggested the headquarters for the South Kent sites could switch from Folkestone to Ashford – if and when the proposed Learning Campus is built on Victoria Way.

South Kent College, which caters for 11,000 students, was left reeling after damning reports from Government inspectors.

Last summer Ofsted rated the college 'inadequate' and revealed a £1.6 million financial deficit. It prompted an overhaul of the college and the drafting in of interim principal Monica Box in August, 2008.

Progress

Experienced at turning round troubled institutions, she has managed to halve South Kent's losses. A report by Ofsted in January stated the college was making progress in overcoming its problems.

The newly merged college will have a new name, which is yet to be decided.

Sandy Fleming of South Kent College said: "Staff will be kept informed of progress as we move through the process."

The deficit has been halved by Monica Box and she is on target to have the books balanced next year."

After Government approval for the merger, the college governors' joint steering group is now to prepare a full consultation on the proposal for the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), at a meeting due to take place on Monday.

Managers are keen to push ahead with the merger before the LSC, which funds further education, is disbanded next year.

Meanwhile, the LSC is facing criticism over its funding programme for new projects, with many now on hold.

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'NHS a terrible mistake'

Labour and Conservatives slam remarks made by Tory MEP during interview on US television

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT MEP Daniel Hannan has refused to back down over disparaging comments he made about the NHS on American television.

In an interview with Fox News presenter Sean Hannity earlier this month, Mr Hannan described the service as a "mistake" that has "made people iller" over the course of its 60-year history.

Former Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott was among those to criticise the Tory over his comments, but Mr Hannan hit back on his online blog.

He wrote: "Prezza says the NHS is Britain's 'greatest creation'. Really? Greater than Parliamentary democracy? Greater than penicillin? Greater than the discovery of DNA, or the abolition of slavery, or the common law?"

"John, the NHS produces some of the worst health outcomes in the industrialised world. Britain is the western state where you'd least want to have cancer or a stroke or heart disease.

"Ours is now a country where thousands of people are killed in hospitals for reasons unrelated to their original condition. If this is our 'greatest creation', Heaven help us."

Views

Mr Hannan was invited to appear on the right-wing Fox News programme so he could give his views on the possibility of the United States adopting a socialist healthcare system similar to the NHS.

The South East MEP told Mr Hannity he wanted to warn America against making the same "terrible mistake" that the UK did 60 years ago.

Conservative Party leader David Cameron – who has been vocal in his support of the NHS – has been challenged to disown Mr Hannan as a result of the remarks, but he has so far offered no comment on the subject.

Fellow Tory Hugh Robertson, the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent, said Mr Hannan was not speaking on behalf of the party.

He said: "I don't agree that the NHS has turned out to be a mistake. I think that's wrong.

"You only have to listen to David Cameron in the last month and the experiences he had with his son to show how strongly he feels about the NHS. It's party policy that matters and not the thoughts of one individual.

"I for one am 100 per cent supportive of the NHS. There are parts of it that need reform and need looking at, but it's still an absolutely fantastic service."

Mr Hannan's popularity among grassroots Tory members soared earlier this year when a video of his speech attacking Gordon Brown in the European Parliament attracted more than one million views on the video-sharing website YouTube.

However, his views on the NHS have now made him plenty of new enemies.

Medway councillor Vince Maple said: "Firstly, I hope Mr Hannan apologises to all of those who work in the NHS. To suggest our doctors and nurses make

people iller is appalling and completely untrue. We can also see nothing's changed in 60 years.

"The Tories voted against the establishment of the NHS 60 years ago and they are still talking it down.

"The mask is slipping on 'compassionate Conservatism'."

Mr Hannan would not say whether or not he stood by his comments or if he was going to apologise for them, when contacted by KOS Media.

He instead told our reporter to read his book The Plan: Twelve Months to Renew Britain, which spells out his views on healthcare.



ATTACK: Daniel Hannan said NHS 'made people iller' in Fox TV interview

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LOST AT SEA: The pier head was finally cut off by winter gales in 1978, but the landward end of Herne Bay pier was converted into a sports hall in the mid 1970s

Trust aims to turn tide at Bay pier

DESPITE three piers succumbing to time and tide in Herne Bay since 1831, a new trust has been set up to raise £15 million for another one, *writes Chris Murphy*.

The first, built at a cost of £50,000, was plagued by the wood-boring shipworm which infested the structure. It finally closed in 1862, driven out of business by the arrival of the railway in the town.

Previously, steamships berthing at the pier had been the preferred method of arrival for holidaymakers.

A second, shorter pier was built in 1873 at a cost of £2,000. Construction of Herne Bay's third pier started in 1896 and included a light railway to carry passengers and their luggage back and forth from the revived pleasure steamers.

A year later, just as work on the 3,787ft pier was being completed, a storm almost wrecked it. It finally opened in 1899, but allegations of financial irregularities forced its transfer to the local authority, Herne Bay Urban District Council, in 1909.

A pavilion was built in 1910 and remained in place for 60 years.

World War Two saw two sections of the pier removed to stop its possible use by the enemy. When they were rebuilt after the war, the workmanship was not as good as it should have been.

The sections were damaged in a 1948 storm; the pier was battered by another fierce gale in 1953; then the harsh winter of 1963 – during which the sea froze – caused further weakening.

The pier was declared unsafe and closed in 1968.

Now Graham Cooper and others on the Herne Bay Pier Trust, set up last year, are determined to finally get everything right.

He said: "There may well have been three piers in the bay, but with modern building techniques and enough money we can build one to last."

"We do need more members, at a cost of just £10 a year each. These people need to be from every part of the



BAY WATCH: The pier trust wants a fourth structure

community to help with ideas and fundraising.

"We are hoping for money from the lottery fund, but are well aware of the mammoth task ahead."

A sports centre was built in 1976 at the shore end of the pier after the pavilion burned down in 1970.

Mr Cooper said: "Now that centre is being relocated, it gives us an excellent window to sort out rebuilding the pier once more."

The pier's run of bad luck continued when in 1978 a winter storm took out the majority of the pier neck. That left the pier head cut off at sea.

Mr Cooper said: "We will also be looking to Europe to help out with some of the funding. But we still need to do a lot for ourselves, hence the need for many more members of the trust to help. We know we can once more have a pier we can all be proud of."

For more details, visit www.hernebaypiertrust.co.uk.

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Countryside communities 'seriously damaged' by a lack of rural housing

URGENT steps are needed to increase the amount of affordable rural housing in Kent, an expert working in the county has warned.

Nigel Whitburn, community development manager at Rural Kent, said Nimbys, the credit crunch and wealthy commuters pricing local people out of the housing market were "seriously damaging" countryside communities.

The latest report from the Commission for Rural Communities (CRC), which advises government on rural issues and particularly in tackling disadvantaged areas, found repossessions of rural properties were rising at nearly double the rate of urban areas.

In some areas this had led to a rise in the number of people made homeless, and in Kent and other counties such as Sussex, there had been an increase in the number of people on housing waiting lists and on housing benefits, the CRC found.

Mr Whitburn said: "The level of demand, based on the evidence of surveys we've carried out, is that there is no doubt that demand is strong in virtually all areas.

"Local people cannot get adequate housing with the existing market."

He said there was particularly high demand for one and two-bedroom bungalows for older people and two to three-bedroom houses for young families.

But when developers got permission for new properties in rural areas they tended to build larger houses with greater profit margins.

"Local people have been priced out and also, of course, the shortage of houses means even the three-bedroom properties are higher priced than necessary," Mr Whitburn said.

Card clone gang target motorists

INTERNATIONAL card-cloning fraudsters have stolen thousands of pounds of cash from the bank accounts of motorists – after lifting their details from payments made at a Medway petrol station.

The high-tech criminals targeted drivers using the Shell garage on the Chatham-bound carriageway of Blue Bell Hill.

State-of-the-art technology stored the cardholders' details – including their sort code, account number and Personal Identification Number (PIN) – allowing fraudsters to clone their cards within minutes.

The duplicate cards have been used at cash points as far away as India, Canada and Australia.

The 'Boycott Blue Bell Hill Shell – Unless You Want Your Card Cloned!' Facebook group has attracted more than 250 members to date.

Writing on the group's message board, user Richard Ingram wrote: "My card was cloned last week and they tried to use it in Australia over three days. Only place I used my card was that garage.

"I reported it to the police and the lady who answered my call said she'd also had three similar complaints that day."

Det Sgt Dave Liffen said: "An investigation has begun into the compromise of payment cards with the full co-operation of the management at the service station concerned, and the relevant financial institutions."

A Shell spokesman added: "The security of customer transactions is Shell's primary concern. For us every instance of card fraud is one too many. Shell has been supportive of the police, APACS and the card service provider in their ongoing investigations into this serious form of organised crime and identity theft."

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

"In counties like Kent close to London, there is strong commuter demand and that could be exacerbated once the high-speed service is launched in December."

Overcrowding

Asked how the recession had affected the rural housing market, he said: "Generally across the county, even in places like Ashford where there are lots of houses planned, if building is still continuing the pace has slowed considerably.

"House-building rates have dropped very seriously, not specifically rural areas, but it has its affect across the whole of the county.

"Housing associations are struggling and finding it harder to raise money to undertake new builds."

He said shared ownership schemes had "virtually disappeared" as a result of people unable to get loans.

A lot of young couples have been forced to stay with their parents, creating overcrowding in villages, or they have been forced to find accommodation in towns.

Mr Whitburn said: "The lack of housing has not necessarily destroyed, but it has badly damaged, the social fabric of rural communities."

"If you lose people you are losing customers for the local shops and kids for the local schools. It thoroughly adds to the threat to rural facilities, which are already under threat as it is."

He said a big issue in Kent was that local residents do not want to see extra housing in villages.

"It is a not in my back yard mentality, they are happy with the chocolate box picture village and do not want to see change," he said.

He added: "It can be a problem finding suitable land and a big problem are the tensions that exist between planners and housing developers. Planners are used to being restrictive in rural areas, although policies are in favour of development."

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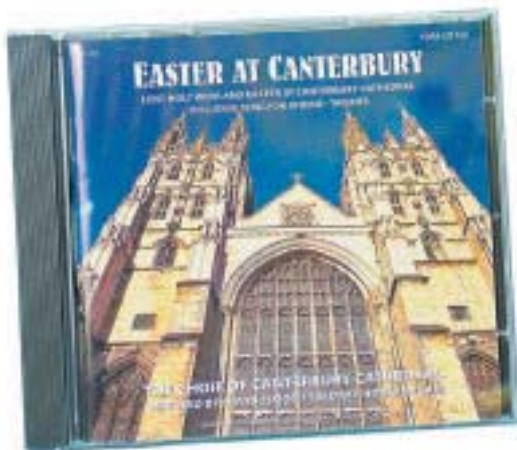
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Plans for crackdown on rowdy street drinkers

BOOZING street drinkers could soon have their alcohol confiscated in two Swale towns if town hall plans are agreed.

Swale council wants to give police officers extra powers to combat rowdy drunks in Sheerness and Faversham, following a similar scheme in Sittingbourne.

The idea has met with strong support in Sheerness, where one councillor has even claimed drunks now own the town centre and esplanade instead of law-abiding citizens.

Cllr Stephen Worrall, Labour member for Sheerness West, said: "I'd like all the drunks taken off the streets. We have people who won't go into the town centre of an evening because of all the trouble that goes on."

"The town does not belong to the people anymore. They should extend this plan as far as possible."

The council meets next Wednesday to decide whether to progress with introducing an order allowing police to take booze from those drinking in public if officers decide they are causing, or are likely to cause, trouble.

Essentially, it gives police the power to control drinking in a certain area and the orders were initially introduced in a Home Office blitz on anti-social behaviour in 2001.

It is not yet clear which Sheerness and Faversham streets could be covered, but Faversham Recreation Ground has already been highlighted as a place that should be included.

The same scheme came into force in Sittingbourne late last summer and anyone looking worse for wear in town centre streets with open or sealed drink cans can now have their booze taken with no questions asked.

If they fail to comply they can be slapped with a £50 penalty fine and arrested.

The idea has met with opposition from some Faversham residents, who say it gives a bad impression of the historic market town.

Cllr Mike Henderson, a Liberal Democrat member for Faversham, said: "I'm far from convinced these extra powers are required. There may be a few people who cause trouble, but you get them everywhere."

"The general view is Faversham is a safe place. It just seems heavy-handed. If someone is behaving badly then the police already have enough powers to be able deal with them."

Police community support officers (PCSOs) could also have the power to enforce the orders.

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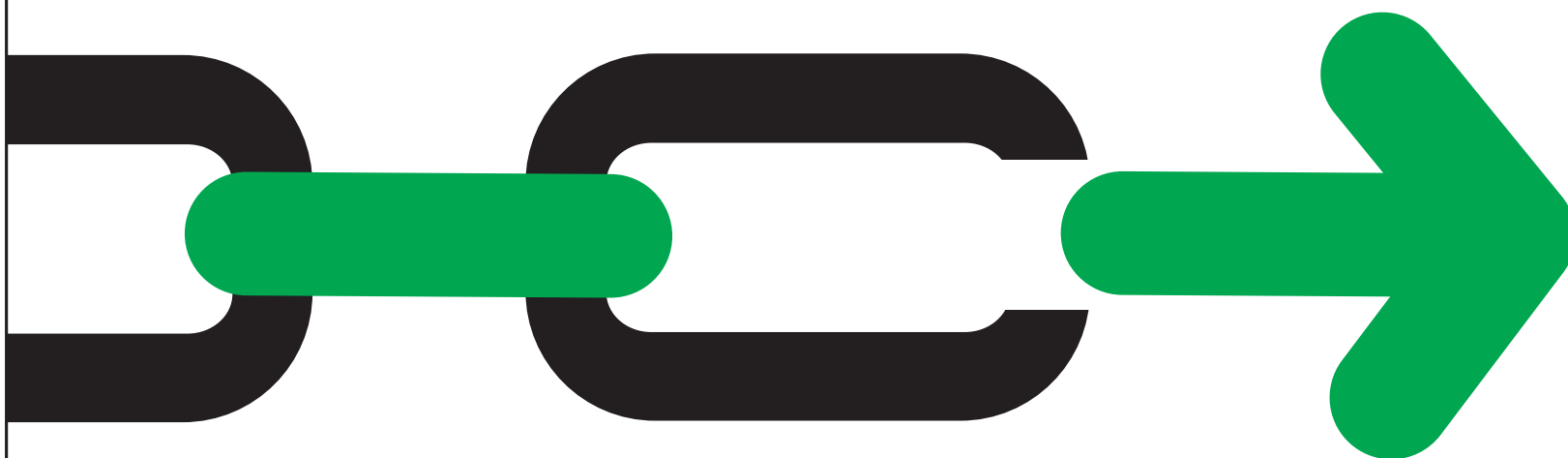
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City slickers on the move to Broadstairs to enjoy slower pace of life on the coast

The new London-on-Sea

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THERE are more Aston Martins in Broadstairs now than in west London.

That is the claim of one estate agent as a flood of Londoners move in to their second homes.

A staggering 60 per cent of the homes being sold in the seaside town are said to be going to wealthy Londoners looking for smart second homes away from the hustle of the capital.

The city slickers are quaintly known locally as DFLs – or Down from London.

Demand

Terence Painter, from Terence Painter Properties, said: "It is true – we have seen a massive rise in the number of smart cars like Aston Martins and other driving around the area.

"I think Broadstairs is one of the few places in the country that hasn't seen a fall in prices.

"If one business goes, another moves right in, and homes here are in great demand.

"It is a lovely place, and it is easy to see why people from London want to buy their second homes here.

"There is so much going on in the area, not just Broadstairs but Thanet in general.



LIFE'S A BEACH: The golden sands and genteel pace of seaside life are attracting well-heeled Londoners to Broadstairs. Bleak House (background and right) is on the market for £2 million

"It is an attractive town and very convenient to get to."

The high-speed rail link will be fully operationally later this year, plus Broadstairs is well known for good shopping, and schools.

Across the region, the number of second homes being sold in Thanet has dropped by over two per cent in three years, but Broadstairs seems to be exempt.

Agents are claiming sales have doubled since Christmas with massive interest from people in London, and sometimes even further north.

Mr Painter said: "It's easy to see the appeal

of the town. You only have to visit once, and most people are hooked."

One of the most expensive and famous homes in the town currently on the market is Charles Dickens' old stomping ground, Bleak House, on the market for £2 million. It's where he wrote David Copperfield.

There are ice-cream parlours and restaurants lining the cliff-top promenade that overlooks the golden sands and small harbour of Viking Bay.

Other attractions include Joss Bay that has surfing and the beautifully isolated Botany Bay.

There are hotspots in the town, including Kingsgate, Dumpton Gap and North Foreland.

A four-bedroom home in these areas is likely to be around half a million pounds with period 1970s-style houses going for £400,000.

Even the stone fishermen's cottages by the harbour start at about £150,000 if one even becomes available.

Pictures: PHIL HOUGHTON



ATTRACTION: Broadstairs boasts several glorious sandy beaches



And Theresa Andrew, manager of Spicer McColl in the town, said: "Lots of Londoners come down here. I am getting several coming through the door almost every day.

"We have lots to offer in this town, particularly something London just doesn't have – and that's lovely sandy beaches.

"Many are looking for second homes and even investment homes. They like our schools and pace of life here."

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BESIDE THE SEASIDE: Pubs, restaurants and ice-cream parlours line the promenade



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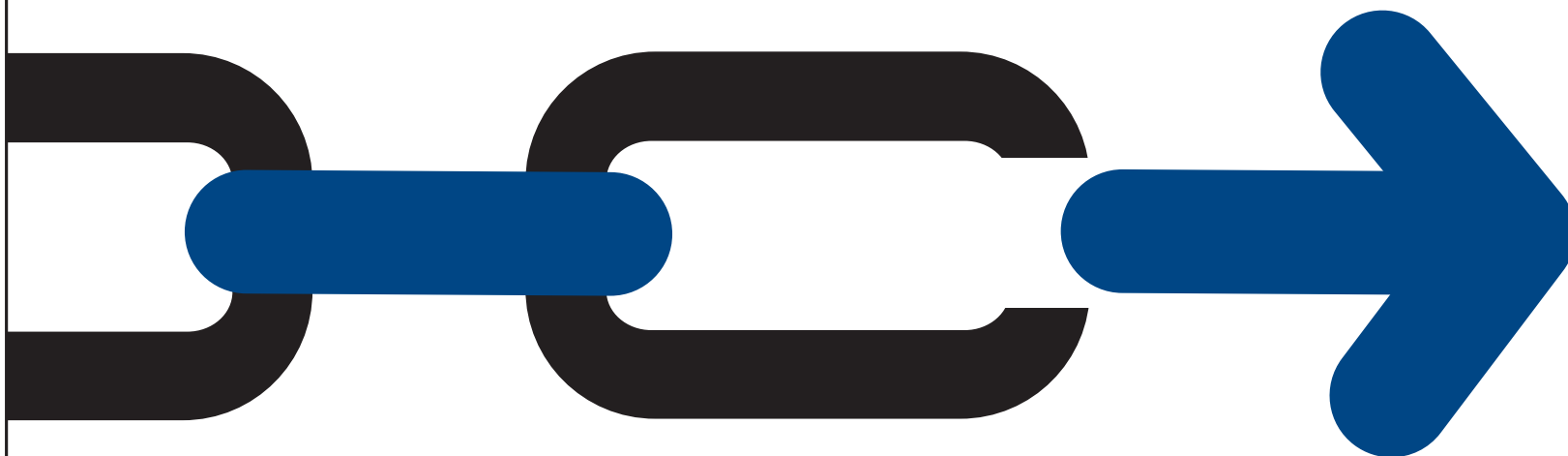
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Sign up to be Special

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT Police say they need more Special Constables to help with patrols throughout the county.

The force is inviting members of the community to get involved by becoming either a Special Constable or volunteer.

At present there are some 350 Specials working alongside regular officers and Police Community Support Officers.

PC Wendy Knight is the co-ordinator for Medway. She said: "Special Constables can carry out the same duties as regular officers, the only difference being that they are volunteers, they are not paid and they wear the Special Constabulary insignia."

"A big part of what they do is to take part in events that we have in Kent, of which there are a lot."

Callum Hardeman is already a Special, and he said it is a great experience: "It's one of my ambitions to join the police and when I saw the information on the Kent Police website immediately wanted to become involved."

"I have a great working relationship with the regular officers and they really appreciate the work we do. They know we do this voluntarily and that we are their support and back up when they need it."

It's not only Special Constables who give up their spare time to support Kent Police – there are also plenty of other volunteer posts.

PC Knight added: "Most of the work the volunteers are involved in is admin and office work. We're particularly keen to hear from people who have computer skills."

"Some volunteers are retired people who want something to keep them busy and others can be young people who want to get an insight into the world of Kent Police."

Experience

Shanelle Maxwell is a student at the University of Kent studying psychology with forensic investigation. She is also a volunteer in the Hate Crime Unit at Medway.

She said: "I think it's great for students to get involved and I can also fit it in with the hours I do at university."

"The experience is great and it's fun to do. I would like to work with the police and this is a great way to get experience."

There are 306 volunteers in Kent police. Applicants need to be 18 or over and able to pass a fitness test and officer safety training.

Supt Neil Jerome, of Partnership and Crime Reduction for Kent Police, said: "Special Constables play a major role in helping tackle crime and are part of the Kent Police family."



DOING THEIR BIT: Volunteer Shanelle Maxwell, PC Wendy Knight and Special Constable Callum Hardeman

"They are a valuable asset to the force and their work sees them presenting evidence in court, making house-to-house enquiries, and giving presentations in schools. It is important to recognise that these individuals find time in between their 'everyday jobs' to help their communities."

He added: "Our volunteer staff do an amazing job in helping to serve the community. Their roles are varied, and often supportive of full-time staff, which proves invaluable."

The volunteer bobbies have the same powers of arrest and their role includes training for crime scene preservation and crime scene reporting, the caution and its use, human rights, and health and safety.

Anyone interested in volunteering can attend one of the following events:

Merton Village Show on Monday, May 4, 10.30am-5.30pm at Merton Farm, Merton Lane, Canterbury.

Thanet Big Event on June 20-21, 9am-5pm at Palm Bay, Cliftonville.

The Kent Show on Friday, July 17-19 July 9am-5pm at Detling Showground, Detling, Maidstone.

• **For more details call 01622 653212.**



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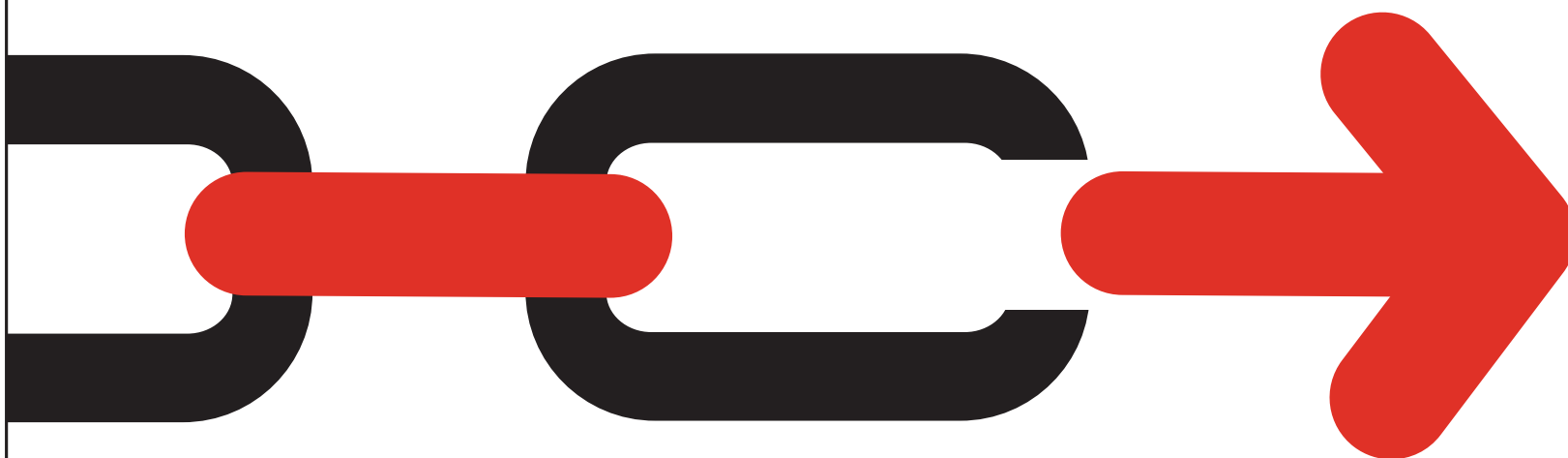
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Child porn convict found dead in cell

A MAN awaiting sentence for possession of indecent images of children has died after he was found hanged in his cell at a prison on the Isle of Sheppey.

A Ministry of Justice spokesman said staff at Elmley Prison had tried to resuscitate Tarot Ambrose, 29, at the scene.

He was found hanged at 3.15pm on April 9 and was pronounced dead three hours later.

"An investigation will take place as is usual in deaths in custody," said the spokesman.

Young boy killed out riding his bike

A BOY died in a collision while out riding his bicycle last Saturday.

Police said the crash involved a silver Peugeot and a blue Ford. It happened at the junction of St Peter's Road and Dane Court Road near St Peter's in Broadstairs. The victim was Brandon Wells, 9, who lived in St Peter's.

Both roads were closed after the accident which happened at about 11.15am.

Work under way on elite rescuers' base

WORK has started on a ground-breaking training centre for Kent's elite rescue team.

The new Urban Search and Rescue Centre is in Loose Road, Maidstone, next to the county training centre, and will house 19 specialist firefighters. They are on stand by to go to major emergencies around the country, as well as handle major emergencies in Kent.

The new station will be the first built in Kent for 15 years and state-of-the-art training aids will also be incorporated into the design.

Woman of the Middle Ages as strong as modern-day female, says historian

Author dispels myth of the medieval housewife

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THERE may be 600 years between them, but the attitudes of women today may not be that different from those who lived during the Middle Ages.

According to Kent author Toni Mount, medieval women actually shared lots in common with the modern-day female and the popular belief that they always said and did as they were told could not be further from the truth.

Humorous

The 54-year-old from Gravesend will look to dispel these myths when she holds her first class on gender history next month in Rochester.

Mrs Mount said: "You would be surprised how similar the lives of today's women are to those who lived hundreds of years ago.

"Technology changes but the people do not – women were trying to get one over on their husbands even then.

"For example, people in medieval times would often carve drawings on church seats that were usually quite humorous.

"Quite a number showed women beating up their husbands, which wasn't legal even though it was acceptable for men to beat them up.

"In terms of history, it's quite easy to find out about noble women but if you know where to look, such as in legal documents when they slip up and find themselves in court, you can discover lots more about peasant women.

"The group I'm starting will also be looking in particular at women in trade because everyone knows that men were merchants and bakers and so on, but not many people realise women did those things as well."

Despite failing her history O-level exam as a schoolgirl, Mrs Mount now works as a lecturer for the Workers' Educational Association and has written a book called *The Medieval Housewife*.

She earned a first-class honours degree in history from the Open University in 2005, and is currently studying for a masters in philosophy at the University of Kent.

Mrs Mount said: "I think history has really taken off in recent years as people are a lot more aware of how to find out more about the past.

"The history syllabus in schools tends to miss out the Middle Ages and I think people are looking to fill the gaps in."

Anyone interested in medieval or gender history is welcome to join Mrs Mount's group, which will meet for the first time at the Gordon House Hotel in Rochester High Street, at 2pm on Tuesday, May 5.



SIMILARITIES: Historian Toni Mount says medieval women shared a lot in common with the women of the modern world

Sessions cost £6 per week or £25 for all five.

• Call Mrs Mount on 01474 355676 for more information or email toni.m6@blueyonder.co.uk.

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
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Thai restaurant proves traditionally-grown British food is far from ordinary

A taste of the Orient

THINK local produce and you will instantly conjure up images of a mouth-watering roast dinner, or sumptuous seafood.

Whatever it means to you, the chances are it will be embodied within a very British dish.

Yet a hugely popular restaurant in Thanet is turning the tables on our preconceptions, by delivering a taste of the East with very Kentish ingredients.

The Surin Thai restaurant, tucked away near the harbour in Ramsgate, may specialise in Thai, Lao and Cambodian cuisine, but its mouth-watering meals comprise of some of the finest home-grown produce.

Owner and chef is Damrong Garbutt explains: "I love cooking so much and trying different recipes and dishes, and I make each one with love. And of course the food has to be really tasty and fresh – that's why my food miles should be measured in metres."

Vegetables are bought daily from Ramsgate market; just metres from the restaurant. Mrs Garbutt searches out the best cuts of meats and fresh fish from the local butchers and the catch of the day from the harbour.

Even the specialist Thai sauces and chillies are bought from local Asian supermarkets in Ramsgate and Canterbury.

It is a combination of the near and far which not only endears the restaurant to an ever-increasing number of regular diners, but to critics too, who have so far been lavish in praise.

Hardy's restaurant guide describes Surin as the "best Thai restaurant in Kent" and one of only three Thai restaurants recognised outside London.

Already reviewed by the Michelin Guide, Mrs Garbutt is crossing her fingers for a Michelin star, which would make her the only such Thai chef and restaurant in the world.

The Observer Food critic Jay Rayner visited and was so impressed with the cuisine he described Surin as "simply the best Thai meal I have ever eaten".

All of which is very much in keeping with KOS Media's 2009 campaign to encourage our readers to demand locally sourced and produced food and drink.

Not only does ploughing money back into the local economy help protect our communities and rural heritage, but it cuts down on the environmentally unfriendly distance such produce travels from source to our dinner table.

Typical items of the menu include Thai dumplings made with Kent pork and fresh crabmeat.

Then there's Whitstable oysters dipped in hot chilli and shallot sauce.

And the main dish is fresh seabass with

in-season Kentish asparagus or a Thai red curry with partridge from the farm just down the road.

Adds Mrs Garbutt: "I am committed to using as much fresh, seasonal, Kent produce as possible. It is unusual for an Oriental restaurant. We have keenly searched out local suppliers for nearly every ingredient used."

And while she admits the recipes have been passed down through her generations to ensure an authentic experience, she remains thoroughly committed to every dish's ingredients originating in Kent.

Her efforts have been acknowledged too. She has won a Kent County Council Environment Award and a Green Tourism recommendation, as well as several Kent Business awards, and is recommended by The Good Food Guide and Time Out. Even the Thai Embassy in London recommends Surin as one of the best Thai restaurants in Europe.



SPICING IT UP: Damrong Garbutt, right, cooks a range of tasty Thai dishes in her restaurant, including locally caught sea bass, above, so even a traditional green curry, centre, is also authentically Kentish



Basket price comparison

Sample baskets contain: Granary bread, two pints milk, 1l tonic water, 4 x 150ml yoghurts, 4 x Spiffire Beer (500ml), 500g Red Grapes, 1kg apples, 1kg Conference pears, 4 x oranges, 1 x melon, 1kg plums, 2kg potatoes, 1kg onions, 1kg carrots, 1kg leeks, 1 x red cabbage, 500g cherry tomatoes, 500g purple sprouting, 1 x large cauliflower, 400g salmon fillets, 500g Cumberland sausages, 250g back bacon, 500g braising steak. Closest match applied. Excludes Express and Metros. Excludes delivery charge. Red number indicates price difference. Source mysupermarket.com as of April 15, 2009.



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Fury at reports condemning effort to save animal



By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE chief officer at a wildlife park said he is furious there are some people who believe that saving the endangered water vole is not worth the effort or money.

Peter Smith, the chief executive of Wildwood Trust, near Canterbury, said the animals, Britain's most endangered mammal, should be reintroduced to our river banks, despite the cost.

He said there have been reports criticising a £400,000 effort made by Thames Water and the Trust – saying it is not worth the cash being spent.

Mr Smith said modern farming, land drainage and destruction of river banks have combined to drive the water vole to the edge of extinction with a catastrophic 90 per cent drop in numbers over the past 20 or so years.

He said: "What price should we put on a species that has lasted for millions of years, evolving into the British water vole? Are we to deny future generations a chance to glimpse this most wonderful of creatures?"

Familiar

Mr Smith's anger was prompted by a story in The Times saying Thames Water had spent around £400,000 moving a 27-strong water vole colony at a sewage works in Abbey Wood, Bexley, so works could be done without disturbing the now legally protected mammal.

He added: "I am incensed by the mean, reactionary and small-minded attitudes of some aspects of the media."

"The law was changed last year to stop the water vole becoming extinct. Thames Water has acted responsibly and within the law and are doing their best to protect the water vole."

"It is money well spent. If they were to build the sewage plant elsewhere because

It's worth going to a vole lot of trouble



of the voles it would have run into many millions. We are keeping them here (at the Wildwood Trust) until the works are completed and then moving them back again."

Water voles were once a familiar sight in and around our river banks, but now you would be lucky to see one, he said.

Wildwood Trust has been leading the fight to save the endangered species and has since developed a number of unique projects that have saved the animals.

The animals are brought back to Wildwood's specially constructed water vole rescue centre, and from there the animals and their offspring are taken to newly created sites, where the habitat has been restored to a state suitable for water voles.

Scientific research so far shows that most of these rescued water voles have survived and created new colonies that could help prevent the animal's extinction in the UK.

News and sport updated daily online
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ENDANGERED:
Peter Smith, of Wildwood Trust (above) says the water vole should be reintroduced to our river banks whatever the cost
Pictures: KNP/TERRY WHITTAKER

Organisers fear that town's carnival has had its day

TIME is running out to save Ashford's annual carnival.

The parade, which dates back to 1933, has been managed by Terry and Brenda Dickinson from Willborough since 1974.

But last year the pensioners decided to retire and appealed for someone else to help keep it afloat.

Yet despite continued appeals, no-one has stepped forward.

And with just three months to go, there are mounting fears it may disappear altogether.

Mr Dickinson, 83, said: "We have done our time running it, but no-one seems interested anymore."

"It would be such a shame as everyone still wants to see it go ahead."

"Last year was great; we had people who came out to support us along the whole route. We had a fantastic time with the event."

The call for help in organising the carnival is echoed by town centre chiefs – desperate to see one of the rare days that

unites the town and brings huge crowds into the town centre kept alive.

Viv Kenny from the Ashford Town Centre Partnership said: "We sent out the forms after last year's carnival thanking people for taking part and asking them to sign up for the next one."

"We are already getting forms back and people are still keen to take part."

"It would be a great shame if it does not continue."

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Entente cordiale in short supply

WHEN a row over French fishing quotas can bring much of Kent to a standstill, clearly something is badly wrong.

Operation Stack had its usual disruptive impact on the county's roads this week, as blockades at French ports stopped ferries from crossing the Channel.

While people may understand why the French fishermen acted the way they did, most are unwilling to show much sympathy due to the disregard shown for motorists and businesses in Kent. These are difficult times for us all, but preventing the free movement of people and trade is not the way to send a message that you are struggling to survive.

It is about time our Government started pressing their French counterparts to prevent the actions of a few creating havoc for many – and costing us all money.

It is simply unacceptable that so many people and businesses should be caught up in a dispute that does not involve them.

Olley good show

WHEN Graeme Olley's war medals were stolen 18 years ago, he must have doubted he would ever see them again.

So is therefore remarkable that his son-in-law saw them by chance on eBay and was able to track them down so they could be returned to their rightful owner.

We've all heard about bad pennies always coming back, but who would have thought the same applied for an MBE?

OPINION:

Get it right, Darling

Tony Patey highlights just how important next week's Budget really is to all of us



BUDGETS used to be fairly predictable events – the Chancellor of the day would give with one hand and take with the other. Details would be kept under tight wraps until the day – it used to be called the 'purdah' period when government ministers kept shtum.

Recent years have seen details leaking out beforehand – under the journalistic conventions of "sources close to" and "it is strongly believed" and it was all becoming a bit jolly. But this time round it's deadly serious – in fact, it's probably the most important Budget this country has ever seen.

On Wednesday Alastair Darling has the unenviable task of telling us how he's going to begin the job of plugging a massive black hole in the public finances, a bill for bank bail-outs and other hand outs which'll cost tens of billions of pounds a year for quite a while.

As recession loomed after the banking binge on lending we saw nationalisation, Keynesian economics in action and the very fundamentals of capitalism openly questioned – economic shibboleths which would have been whispered in only certain radical academic circles previously.

It's no wonder that at least one trade union has been recruiting

what are effectively workplace agitators (shades of certain activities just before revolution in a certain Euro-Asian empire in the early 20th century) and wildcat strikes have clawed themselves back into the news.

We know what Mr Darling WILL do. He's putting up alcohol duty two per cent above inflation – may not be much as he expected when he announced the four-year plan this time last year, but it will still hit struggling pubs – and smokers and drivers can expect at least something to hit them, although there may be some nod towards new car sales.

But the major questions will be how will he tackle the big issues and who will be hit hardest?

There might be some small print help for pensioners and savers, who are, of course, being caned by low interest rates, and there might also be some headline aid for homebuyers – there has been some good news in the property market of late – but what about direct and indirect tax?

Individuals and businesses can't pay taxes unless they've got an income, so the Chancellor has

got to concentrate his mind, and PDQ. People losing their jobs and going on benefits, firms going bust and cash flow being hammered by late payers won't kick-start the faltering beast.

So, if you want some definite predictions – here they are: Bailed-out banks will get the biggest kick up the backside they've ever had – they've had obscene amounts from taxpayers to help them out of their self-dug holes, now it's pay-back time. No more hanging on to cash to build up their balance sheets – the cost of background "wholesale" money which they use is slowly coming down, so there's no excuse.

Banks should, of course, be going back to the cautious old leviathans they used to be, but that doesn't stop them being reasonable about lending to good customers, which, let's face it, most people and businesses are. And they've got to pass on the recent interest rate cuts.

Mr Darling must also somehow give us confidence in the future before he sits down on Wednesday. That's the main psychological driver which will put a bounce into markets for construction and

retailing, and spur on consumers.

Part of the unblocking will also be a kind of guarantee scheme to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – the vast majority of Kent's firms are this size – get relief from debts piling up and hitting their cash-flow, their day-to-day money needs.

Some SMEs have been propped up with cash reserves which they've prudently built up in the good times, or owners have dipped into their own pockets. But this kind of backing and, of course, cost-cutting can go only so far.

There have been calls for wage subsidies for employers and employees moving towards short-time working, coupled with raising personal tax thresholds to £10,000, to put money back into pockets – but there's got to be an incentive to spend as well as save.

We're seeing a new socio-economic dawn – an exciting one I've waited years for – so now's the time to grasp a few nettles, Mr Darling. Feel the pain, and get it right.

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June's death a sad loss

I was sorry to read about the death of June Care. June was the Home Service adviser for the gas board in Kent during the 1980s and came to give demonstrations to members of the Women's Gas Federation in Dover.

As you say, she was the nicest person you could wish to meet and I'm sure her death will be a great loss to many people.

Brenda Blackman, Dover

Foxed by the majority

Shadow justice minister Edward Garnier and the East Kent Hunt's quixotic spokesman Nick Onslow need to face facts. Hunting is dead and buried and the Hunting Act will never be repealed (KoS, last week).

The 158 MPs who signed a motion supporting the ban in the House of Commons are representative of the wishes of at least three quarters of the British people. Before the ban came into force it was common knowledge that hunts nationwide engineered breeding programmes to guarantee the fox's incremental growth specifically for the purpose of keeping the 'sport' alive. Fox-hunting has never been about managing fox numbers as the pro-hunt lobby deceptively claim. It is about a primeval blood-lust coursing through the veins of uncivilised humans who attain twisted satisfaction from the prolonged pursuit and agonising visceral dispatch of beautiful, terrified creatures.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Widdecombe's warning

The row over hunting in the Conservative Party is very interesting. Even when the Tories were in power there was a majority in the Commons for a ban.

However, Ann Widdecombe is probably right to warn that a Tory government with a large majority would repeal the ban. It is

War heroes deserve better

Mr Mitch asks what the difference is between a 65th, 17th or 47th anniversary of a conflict. Firstly, in the particular case of the Normandy landings, this may be the last chance for many survivors to come together before they die.

True, we commemorate the dead of all wars every November, but presumably Mr Mitch would not see previous commemorations of the landings as invalid, such as the 60th, so I might just as well ask him what the difference is between a 60th and 65th anniversary.

Another important point to remember is commemorations give us time to reflect on things, so I'm inclined to think the more of them the better.

We have become a fragmented and broken society. Remembering historic

events brings people together and is educational. I always think it's a shame stores don't close on Remembrance Sunday as this would make people aware this was a special day. As it is, I'm sure many – numbed by computer games and poisoned by junk food – are unaware of this event, or very much else for that matter. A nation lives and dies by its deeds, good or bad. There are plenty of people who would like to tell us what's wrong with this country, so we should remember the good, too. We should make a fuss of our triumphs. If Jade Goody's passing can provoke such huge coverage and interest, surely the sacrifices of a far greater number of people, fighting for our freedom, should be properly recognised.

Paul Hadlow, Wincheap, Canterbury

therefore important for all those who do not want to see a return of this barbarity to work to ensure that they are not elected.

David Burgess, Hawkhurst

Pen dipped in bile

David Cheverst's apoplectic outburst concerning Martin Frey's "bile" seems to show only that he is determined that the status quo should remain and the divisive and anachronistic 11-plus, which leaves many children apologising to their parents for having "let them down" when they are not

selected for grammar school. A system which condemns our children to this at such a young age can clearly not be right. Mr Cheverst's letter bears little, if any, relation to the letter from Mr Frey, but shows only that those who seek to preserve the 11-plus will go to any lengths to achieve their aims.

The bile Mr Cheverst claims to be present in Mr Frey's letter drips only from his own pen – not untypical of those who seek to defend the indefensible. His claim that most will be just "average" makes it clear he has nothing but contempt for the majority of our children and I believe they deserve better as, I am sure, does Mr Frey. It is a shame that

YOUR LETTERS

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the Kent Education Authority does not feel the same.

Sid Hollands, Maidstone

Divisions of opinion

John Botting of Ukip invites readers in Kent to vote for his party in the local elections on June 4, in addition to the EU elections.

He indicated that Ukip had a full range of policies for the local scene in Kent. He even announced he would be one of five Ukip candidates in Maidstone.

However, it is revealing that Mr Botting appears to be unable to distinguish between KCC and the district/borough councils in Kent. As a KCC candidate himself, that seems particularly alarming.

It is all divisions of KCC which are up for election in June, Mr Botting, not the district/borough wards (unless there are any by-elections).

In Medway we have no KCC elections, but if I had a vote in Kent I would cast it for Paul Carter's Conservative administration. The Conservative team for the European Parliament also have my full support.

Chris Buckwell, Rochester

The real nasty party?

Last week you published two letters urging people to vote for the viscerally anti-European UK Independence Party (Ukip) at the European Parliament elections in June.

Voters need to be reminded of the kind of party Ukip really is. A vote for this outfit is not as uncontroversial as these letters make it seem. Ukip is readily associated with the far right on issues of race and immigration. In 2004 the party published a pamphlet depicting a deluge of foreign migrants heading for the UK via the Channel Tunnel.

Its slogan 'Britain – standing room only' an

Letters continued on page 44

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BIRTHS

AGRAWAL

Ankur and Parul Agrawal celebrate the birth of their daughter Ananya Agrawal on 25th March 2009.

BURBRIDGE

Kaylee and Shane of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Harvey William Andrew Burbridge, born on 5th April 2009 at QEOM. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

COURT

Yasmin Emily born on 24th March 2009, weighing 7lbs 12ozs. Daughter to Gary and Alison of Dover. Sister to Ashley and Megan.

CUMMINS

Kim and David Cummins celebrate the birth of their son Ashton James Robert Cummins on 22nd March 2009 weighing 7lb 14oz.

GAWTHORPE

Jacob Daniel born on 3rd April 2009, weighing 9lbs 3ozs. Son to Elizabeth and Stuart of Elvington. Brother to Noah.

HARGRAVE

Daniel James born on 28th March 2009 weighing 7lb 13oz. Son to Rachel and Anthony and brother to Emma in Loose.

HARWOOD

Angie and Tim of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Francesca Penelope Joyce Harwood, born on 25 March 2009 at QEOM. Sister to Jefferson.

HUGHES

Jemma and Philip of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Lily Rosine Kerry Hughes, born on 3 April 2009 at QEOM.

MOOR

Marie and Kurt of Westgate-on-Sea are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Evie Rose Moor, born on 31 March 2009 at QEOM. Sister to Tamzin and Kacey.

OKORODUDU

Ken Okorodudu and Sarah Hill announce the birth of their son Angelo Samuel Okorodudu on 1st April 2009 weighing 7lb 1oz.

SAUNDERS

Malachi Craig born on the 27th March 2009, weighing 7lbs 9ozs. Son to Steven and Danielle of Folkestone.

TAWS

Nicola and Daniel of Herne Bay proudly announce the birth of their son, Harry George, on 8th April 2009 at 10.45pm weighing 7lb 12oz.

TAYLOR

Andrew and Charlotte are pleased to announce the birth of their son Harrison James Taylor on 3rd April 2009. A brother to Isabella.

VIZZINI

Max and Amy are proud to announce the arrival of their son Matteo Giuseppe Vizzini on 10th April 2009

DEATHS

BEDINGFIELD

Walter (Wally) Bedingfield passed away peacefully on 12th April 2009 in the Pilgrims Hospice Margate. Funeral to take place on 24th April at 1.20pm. at Thanet Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Thanet Hospice c/o Gore Brothers Margate.

BURFORD

Lily Violet Burford of Herne Bay, formerly Eastbourne, passed away peacefully on 10th April 2009. A much loved mum, grandmother and great grandmother who will be very sadly missed. The funeral will be held at Thanet Crematorium on 22nd April at 12 noon.

BURROWS

Derek James Burrows of River passed away peacefully after a short illness on 10th April 2009. A much loved son, husband, dad and grand-dad who will be

very sadly missed. All funeral enquiries to Farriers of Dover 01304 201665. Family flowers only but if desired donations to the Pilgrims Hospice Canterbury c/o Farriers.

CHAPMAN

In loving memory of Sue Chapman, loving Mother, Partner and Nan. Who passed away peacefully on 7th April 2009 after a long battle with Alzheimers.

SAUNDERS

Theresa (Mary Theresa) Saunders of Canterbury passed away peacefully on 7th April 2009. A dearly loved mum, nan and great nan who will be very sadly missed. The funeral will be held at Barham on 21st April at 10am.

TOLLEY

Mary "Maria" Tolley died peacefully on 7th April 2009 at home. Much loved mother to Mark, grandmother to Sophie, Tyrone, Chloe and Sonny, and best friend to Shirley. She will be sadly missed. All enquiries to Doves Funerals on 01622 688662.

WHEELER

We are very sad to announce that Elizabeth Florence Wheeler also known as Lil Wheeler passed away on Sunday 5th April. For funeral details please contact Lewis Solomon 01474 352261.

Long-term perspective on 'the politics of envy'

The Taxpayers' Alliance has received much publicity regarding the salary levels of staff employed in the public sector.

There has been a specific focus on senior local government officials, having used the Freedom of Information Act to establish their salaries across the country (with a few exceptions where authorities have refused to disclose the information – not Kent, I am pleased to say).

I totally support open and transparent public information, the public has a right to know where their taxes go, including the salaries of public servants.

What I take issue with is the lack of balance in the way the figures have been reported and the implication that nobody in the public sector should be entitled to a salary in excess of £100,000. Politics of envy or what? We need to get some perspective on this issue because there is much misinformation being peddled about so-called bloated salaries.

Let's do some comparisons over the last 30 years. The table below provides salary comparisons over that time, both private and public sector.



KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter

Some real comparators can now be drawn on whether chief executives and senior officers in local government have had excessive growth in their salaries over the years.

The facts actually suggest otherwise. In 30 years, average salaries have increased by a factor of almost 10 (an interesting aside, so have property prices).

Senior officers and chief executives, in real terms, lag behind. It is also of significance that KCC now has half the number of senior officers it had 10, 20 or 30 years ago – a massive saving for council taxpayers. The responsibilities for senior directors are enormous in authorities the size and scale of Kent. These

include child protection, adult social care, the education of 250,000 young people and running an organisation employing 40,000 people with an annual spend of £2.2 billion.

It would be interesting to compare the salaries of senior bankers and FTSE 100 directors over the last 30 years.

I think I know the answer – a job for the Taxpayers' Alliance, perhaps.

Cllr Paul Carter, leader, KCC

YEAR	CARPENTER	SECONDARY HEAD	KCC CHIEF EXEC
1979/80	£4,000	£12,000	£28,000
1989/90	£12,000	£37,000	£104,000
1999/2000	£25,000	£72,000	£152,000
2009/10	£40,000	£105,000	£214,000
INCREASE	10 X INCREASE	9 X INCREASE	8 X INCREASE

and cabbages, plus all root crops. My family have toiled in Thanet's fields for hundreds of years. It is in our blood.

The land in Thanet sustains us and always has. Landowners are custodians, with lands handed down to them or bought.

The China Gateway nightmare is short-term thinking, and once land is concreted over it is no use to man or beast.

Wrong move, wrong discussion. It's time for a rethink. This land has sustained us since our hunter-gatherer ancestors made the first plough and became farmers.

The Domesday Book measured England by how many ploughs, pigs and cows people owned. Food will become more of a weapon than oil, coal or gas. We cannot live without food.

We have to turn back to growing what we eat. We need much tighter planning controls, not allowing a few individuals to control large swathes of farmland.

It's a thing of beauty, nature. Furrowed rows bursting with goodness, cauliflowers, sprouts and corn growing, the smell of onions being harvested, and dung being spread for the next year's crops.

This will carry on when we are all long gone – if it is allowed to be kept as England's food table.

I notice Thanet's MPs have been very quiet on this sensitive issue and I feel voters have been ignored. Yet more farmers' markets are setting across the island providing good food. My record on our green belt and farmland hasn't changed over the years.

This country will only survive by growing as much as possible where possible. Look at Thanet Earth: grown in Thanet, driven to Dartford, then back to Isle shops.

We are telling people to stop cutting down trees in the Amazon, yet what we are doing amounts to the same.

Many years ago we had a peasants' revolt in Thanet. Well, we need one again – and soon. Save our farmland and grow for Britain. Don't be a slave to an Asian tiger whose economy has gone down the pan. Why this China Gateway was rubber-stamped I just don't know.

Things have to change. The people have to take back control.

Trevor Shonk, Ramsgate

Ending the violence

With reference to your story about battered women backing a Home Office initiative on domestic abuse (KoS, April 5). I was a victim of domestic violence in my late teens (I am now 48), due to family breakdown.

I could say more, but it's a long story and much of it is too nasty to be repeated. What I went through scarred me psychologically for life.

I've come across quite a few mean and nasty individuals in my time, but the person who made me endure all that bullying, abuse and violence is the most evil person I've ever met.

I suffered a nervous breakdown a few years later. I'm surprised it didn't happen sooner and am still traumatised by it. It's probably most people's idea of hell.

I have great sympathy for all domestic abuse victims – no-one deserves to have such violence directed towards them. One of the most common forms is face slapping.

Let's hope violent offenders get their comeuppance once and for all.

Name and address supplied

We're caught in a trap

So Sir David Attenborough is encouraging us to reduce the size of our families – for wildlife.

With uncounted, uncontrolled thousands pouring into this country – most with the potential for producing large families – it will not be our families that need curtailing.

We are in danger of becoming an ethnic minority within our own country. Is that part of the long-term strategy?

We playing with fire by creating this pressure-cooker situation. If it blows, I dread to

Letters continued from page 43

indication of the kind of xenophobia that is the real driver of the party's loathing of the European Union.

Ukip is on record condoning terrorism. When, in January, 2004, MEPs across several countries received letter bombs, it released a statement saying that they [Ukip] could "understand the reasons behind [the attacks]."

Despite the public outcry (and the injuring of an MEP's innocent secretary), Ukip did not immediately withdraw the comments, instead congratulating its leader on making them.

Ukip is proudly misogynistic. Godfrey Bloom stated the following in a press conference in 2004: "No self-respecting small businessman with a brain in the right place would ever employ a lady of child-bearing age"; and "I am here to represent Yorkshirewomen who always have dinner on the table when you get home. I am going to promote men's rights".

He went on to claim his support for women's issues was because "I just don't think they clean behind the fridge enough."

Needless to say, all Ukip's MEPs are white, middle-aged, middle-class males. Ukip members are proud climate change deniers, in the face of all the scientific evidence in support of the most urgent issue facing mankind today.

This issue requires urgent international action, of which the EU perhaps remains mankind's best hope for a solution while the new US president settles in to his new job.

This is just a taste of a growing catalogue of Ukip bumbling, foolishness and stupidity, the kind of cringeworthy antics which give Britain's European Parliament delegation from all parties a bad name.

South East voters deserve much better than this motley crew of Little Englanders blinded by inaccurate and exaggerated tabloid tales

caricaturing the EU as a batty, interfering bureaucracy. It is anything but.

The EU is the exemplar of pan-national co-operation, perhaps the greatest achievement to date in human civilisation. Its image in British right-wing circles as a monolithic devourer of national sovereignty is demolished by the fact that, according to the House of Commons library, it is responsible for just nine per cent of our law – and that in areas where the UK has freely given the EU competence.

Indeed, despite tabloid assertions to the contrary, the EU cannot acquire power to itself without express consent from member states – nations which join it under their own volition.

Given the credit crunch and complete failure of the free market dogma which propped up British economic growth for 30 years, the UK needs the EU like never before.

Only an international organisation with proper legal clout can maintain control and accountability over free-flowing movements of international capital.

Hobbled in this respect by a Britain deluded by the mirage of its own economic success these last three decades, the EU is about to enter a new phase of legitimacy and necessity. Yet again, contrary to its media image in Britain, the EU can be seen as a guarantor of national sovereignty, not its nemesis.

It is for the economic reason above all others that voters ought to ignore the litany of embarrassing Ukip candidates in June, and instead vote for other parties which will better forward the UK's national interest in the European Parliament for the next five years.

Ben Murphy, Sittingbourne

Deep roots in this isle

We in Ramsgate – in fact the whole of Thanet – have long lived off the land. The best corn

think of the consequences.

If we were still free to secure the borders, our problem would be dealt with almost instantly. However, since John Major signed the Maastricht Treaty we have no authority to secure our own borders. What lunacy. How did we allow ourselves to be led into such a trap as this?

June Moore, Tunbridge Wells

Animal testing crucial

Jan Creamer incorrectly claims (Letters, last week) that amendments to the new EU laws governing animal research that the European Parliament's agriculture committee has voted through would seriously weaken proposals from the European Commission. These amendments in fact correct rules that would have slowed down or even stopped important medical research in Europe for no corresponding benefit to animal welfare.

As amended by the agriculture committee, the revisions to the EU laws on animal research strike an excellent balance between supporting and encouraging top-flight medical research in Europe on the one hand and ensuring proper oversight of this research and due regard for animal welfare on the other.

Animal research has played a key role in developing many therapies that we now take for granted, including everything from antibiotics to heart transplants, and continues to be vital in fields as diverse as stem cell medicine and the discovery of effective treatments for genetic diseases such as Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

In particular, research using monkeys is crucial to the development of new treatments for neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease and the development of vaccines and microbicides against HIV.

For this reason all the major medical research charities in the UK support the amendments the agriculture committee has proposed.

If you value the contribution made by British and European scientists to medical progress, please contact your MEPs and remind them to remember the patients when they vote on the new rules in May.

Paul Browne, Pro-Test, Oxford

Votes are stacking up

Yet again we have chaos on our motorways with our monthly dose of Operation Stack.

Thankfully we have county council elections coming up on the June 4 and the voters of Shepway and Kent can at last do something about it – change the regime at County Hall.

While quick to speculate with £50 million of our money in Icelandic banks, Cllr Paul Carter and his Tory cronies at KCC have abjectly failed to invest in a sensible alternative to Operation Stack.

Lukewarm to the Government's solution of moveable traffic barriers, he can't even get his ill-conceived plan to concrete over Sellindge with a lorry park past its preliminary planning hurdles.

Even building a lorry park out to sea at Dover appears to offer no attraction to him for fear of upsetting haulage or ferry interests. Yet Samphire Hoe sits close by as a prime example of our ingenuity to create something of beauty out of waste.

No, instead of action or investment, Cllr Carter prefers to blame everyone else for our clogged-up motorways.

Foreign truckers for coming here in the first place; French fishermen for defending their livelihoods; and the Government for not funding his crass solutions and hours of needless police overtime.

Well, whoever he chooses to blame for the delays and jams on Kent's motorways these past four years, it happened on his watch and he has done nothing about it other than complain.

Something his Tory colleagues will remind him after the election, when the votes just

didn't stack up in his favour.

Donald Worsley, Aldington,
Labour parliamentary candidate for
Folkestone and Hythe

Credit where it's due

It is good news that KCC is finally going to set up a Kent-wide credit union.

Publicly owned and democratically controlled banking is the only way forward. We have all witnessed what happens when you let profits and greed take control of an unregulated economic system.

KCC has firsthand experience of this with its huge losses in Iceland. Let's hope, therefore, they have learned their lesson on how to look after public money when they open the credit union. Of course, KCC should do a lot more than just providing savings and loans.

A fully functioning, local government-run bank for the people of Kent would be useful to many and hopefully more safe than most of the high street ones.

KCC should also move its own investments away from unethical companies, such as those involved in arms and tobacco, and invest in green industries.

Investing in energy-saving schemes, producing renewable energy, effective public transport and local food production will not just provide a more healthy return on investments, but also ensure a better future for us, all while providing much-needed jobs now.

Stuart Jeffery, Maidstone,
Green Party parliamentary candidate,
Maidstone and the Weald

Cancer campaigners

The issues that affect cancer patients can be extremely wide ranging – and often in ways you may never have considered before.

Did you know, for instance, that many people affected by cancer experience sexual dysfunction as a result

of their diagnosis or treatment?

Unfortunately, most of these people have not been offered any help in the area. Macmillan Cancer Support wants to address this and will shortly be launching a campaign to get the support cancer patients need and deserve.

One of the best ways to do this is to raise awareness and so we would like to speak to people whose sexual relationships have been affected by cancer and don't mind their story being told in the media.

Together we hope to break the taboo of not talking about this side-effect of cancer so people can see that they're not alone and that it is all right to ask for support.

If you would like to use your experience to benefit other cancer patients in similar situations, and are happy to tell your story openly in local campaigns, we want to hear from you. For more information, please contact Ali Birtwell or Katy Chaytor on 0208 222 9009/9028, email abirtwell@macmillan.org.uk or kchaytor@macmillan.org.uk.

Ali Birtwell, Communications Manager,
Macmillan Cancer Support

Last word on salaries

The salary paid to KCC chief executive Peter Gilroy is outrageous.

The old argument that you have to pay high salaries to attract the right talent no longer holds good when five people are chasing every job vacancy.

If Mr Gilroy thinks he can earn £207,000 a year elsewhere, he is living on a different planet.

His salary should be slashed by half. A good GP can earn £100,000 a year and is of far more value than a faceless bureaucrat.

The money saved could be used to reopen tourist information offices in Whitstable and Herne Bay which were closed just when there was been an upsurge in interest in taking holidays in this country.

Michael Charles, Gravesend

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Diplomas offering young a chance of hands-on learning

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

STUDENTS choosing to study for the Government's new Diploma qualifications are set to benefit from four new subject choices.

Colleges and schools across the county have been successful in their bid to offer extra Diplomas in manufacturing and product design, public services, sport and active leisure and travel and tourism from 2010.

Schools minister Jim Knight, who announced the further qualification choices on offer for students, said: "I am extremely pleased that young people in Kent will have the chance to study the Diploma in even more subjects."

"The qualification is an exciting new choice for young people, which will help students to gain the knowledge and skills they need to achieve success at university or in the career of their choice."

Diplomas are being offered as more vocational alternatives to GCSEs

and A-levels and were introduced in September last year.

The additional subjects will join nine already on offer in Kent schools and colleges, which include creative and media, engineering, information technology, society, health and development, construction and the built environment, and hair and beauty studies.

Mr Knight said the new qualification for 14 to 19-year-olds had been developed with input from universities and employers.

They combine classroom learning with practical hands-on experience, which the Government believes is better to prepare students for work and university. Diploma students continue to study English, maths and ICT.

Sir Alan Jones, chairman emeritus of Toyota UK, is Diploma champion for employers.

He said: "By giving young people in Kent the opportunity to understand

the relationship between what they learn in the classroom and the linkage to the world of employment, the Diploma will give young people a more realistic understanding of the working world."

"I fully support the Diploma. It will benefit students with a career head start and knowledge, skills and experience they gain while they are learning will benefit employers in the future."

However, the Diplomas have proved controversial and were only taken up by 12,000 students initially, although Mr Knight has said the figure will more than triple to 40,000 this September.

They have been criticised for not being academic enough for pupils aiming for university. However, some universities have said the new way of learning will engage and stretch young people of all backgrounds.

By 2010, 97 per cent of English local authorities will be offering some Diploma subjects and by 2013, a total of 17 subjects will be on offer to young people.

Hard work pays off for dyslexic

A TEENAGER with dyslexia who left school without any qualifications has been short-listed for an award from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

Joshua Hicks, 18, has been studying for an entry to employment (e2e) programme at TBG Learning in Gravesend, which helps young people with academic studies as well as 'soft skills' such as interview techniques and CV writing.

He has now achieved Level 1 and 2 qualifications in literacy and numeracy. As well as dyslexia he also has Irlen's syndrome, which affects his vision.

He has a place at college to study plumbing starting this September.

Wendy Gurr, his tutor at learning centre, said: "Josh's motivation and engagement is an inspiration to all."

The results of the awards are announced at the end of the month.

'Green' students given UK award

STUDENTS in Kent have won a prestigious national environmental award at a glitzy ceremony hosted by a presenter from the BBC's The One Show.

The Sound Environmental Impact Awards, which are now in their third year, help students' unions show they are taking part in 'green' initiative.

Kent Union was marked among the best performing in the country and gained a Silver Standard last Tuesday, which was hosted by writer, comedian, broadcaster, actor and director Hardeep Singh Kohli.

The students received an award made out of recycled wellie boots for their efforts.

Anna Heywood, project found and judge, said: "The unions have really stepped up a significance level this year and have surpassed themselves. It's great to see how enthusiastically they have taken on board environmental improvement."



Don't bury your head in the sand!!

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- Graduate, Trainees
- Health and Safety, Security, Defence
- HR, Recruitment
- Industrial, Warehouse, Factory
- IT, Internet, Telecoms

- Insurance, Banking, Finance
- Legal
- Leisure, Tourism, Travel
- Management Consultancy
- Management, Senior Positions
- Marketing, Advertising
- Motor Trade, Driver
- Not for Profit, Charities

- Nursing, Medicine, Care Work
- Other
- Print, Packaging, Distribution
- PR, Media, Journalism
- Public Sector, Social Services
- Retail, Wholesale, Sales
- Scientific and Pharmaceutical, Research
- Transport, Logistics, Aviation



RESTAURANT MANAGER

The opportunity has arisen for an experienced and highly motivated Restaurant Manager to work in Kent's premier Fish and Seafood Restaurant. Our ideal candidate must have exacting standards with ability to interact with guests. A willingness to train and develop staff and a good knowledge of wine and beverage service is essential.

Please send your CV with covering letter to
Mr Stephen Taylor, General Manager at
Eastwell Manor to: stephentaylor@eastwellmanor.co.uk
Eastwell Park, Boughton Lees, Ashford,
Kent TN25 4HR
Tel: 01233 213000 Fax: 01233 635530
www.eastwellmanor.co.uk
Email: Enquiries@eastwellmanor.co.uk

Waitress required
for family run village restaurant.
Silver service preferred but
not essential as training can be given.
Own transport necessary.
2 or 3 evenings per week - Age 25 plus
Phone Martins Restaurant 01227 750304.

**The Old Sawmills
Furniture Co Ltd
Bethersden**
Requires very experienced
WOOD MACHINIST
Using various Panel Saws,
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Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm
To apply Call 01233 822417 or
email: info@oldsawmills.com



MAIDSTONE

Good Traditional Cook required

Full time and Part time cook required at our Day Centres. Part time required to work 3 days a week, 9am to 2pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays plus occasional agreed extra days to cover for staff annual leave.

Are you capable of:
Cooking up to 40 meals plus per day • Planning menus

And have:
Good basic cooking skills in traditional style meals
Food hygiene certificate (training can be provided) • Full clean driving licence

RGN/SEN Footnurses required with current NMC essential
Must be willing to travel throughout Borough of Maidstone. Full driving license and own transport essential. Training provided.

Remuneration for each client treated will be paid plus travelling expenses.

For application form etc please phone 01622 753618, or visit 11 Mill Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XW

Both positions will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.



Trainee Sales Negotiators Experienced Sales Negotiators / Managers

Established in 1910 Geering and Colyer is a traditional Estate Agent with traditional values with 8 offices based around Kent.

Due to a huge increase in business in 2009 we are now looking to expand our sales teams in Central & East Kent.

If you are a high calibre individual with a 'can-do' attitude, good communication skills and of smart appearance then contact us to find out more about our structured career path, extensive training and our exciting working environment.

To find out more please contact:

Human Resources

0800 376 7890

or email your CV to: shelley.metson@kent.cwea.co.uk

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We are now recruiting for
HEALTHCARE ASSISTANTS & REGISTERED NURSES
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If you are over 18 years of age and are eligible to undertake paid work in the UK
Call Julie Epsley on: 01732 523442
or email: info@bayada.co.uk



BRANCH MANAGEMENT STAFF

**Kent and East Sussex area.
Salary negotiable dependant on experience**

We are Kent's largest independent motor factor with 6 branches across the South East with 25 years experience of supplying car parts to garages and workshops. We are shortly looking to expand our branch network and are therefore looking to employ branch management staff in the Kent and East Sussex area.

As a member of our branch management team, you will be responsible for managing all aspects of a branch, such as overseeing all branch staff, ensuring customer needs are met effectively and efficiently by both delivery and counter sales, and achieving set targets for profit and sales. Previous experience of managing a motor factor branch is essential. Candidates will need to prove they have extensive management experience within the motor factor trade.

All correspondence will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

To apply, please forward your CV to humanresources@scmf.co.uk or alternatively call Peta Budd on 0208 308 6812.

Closing date for applications: 28th April 2009

Dover · online · Calais

e-Commerce Marketing Executive

THE ROLE

This is an exciting, varied role for an experienced Marketing Executive to work in a fun, friendly team. You need to be passionate about online marketing and taking an active role in all e-Commerce Marketing projects with the team.

The main responsibilities include:

- Maintenance of our website (ensuring it is always kept up to date) plus testing of new developments;
- Search Engine Optimisation and Pay Per Click activity management;
- Affiliate and partner relationship development and management;
- Creating and managing domains and microsites for the SeaFrance portfolio; and
- Assisting with the continued development of the Customer Relationship Management programme.

Key to this role is the ability to understand and influence consumers through online marketing to bring them through to the website and encourage them to book. Other areas of responsibility include running, updating and circulating reports for activities, liaising with external agencies and internal departments to ensure we maximise our revenue and co-ordinate activity.

THE PERSON

We're looking for someone who is dynamic, has a creative flair and can provide evidence of delivering in a fast-paced and focused online environment. Online Marketing experience is essential and must include an in-depth understanding of Search Engines and website usability. Knowledge of html and content management systems is preferable.

You must be educated to a minimum of A-level standard and have a CIM qualification or equivalent. A good command of the English language for writing copy is required as well as direct marketing experience to support our busy Marketing department.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

A competitive salary; 23 days holiday per year rising to 26 days, plus statutory holidays; contributory pension; life assurance cover and concessionary travel benefits.

To apply, please send your CV and covering letter detailing salary expectations to Human Resources, SeaFrance Ltd, Whitfield Court, Honeywood Close, Whitfield, Kent, CT16 3PX or email recruitment@seafraunce.fr

Closing Date: 1 May 2009

seafrance.com

Community Drug Workers

£21,306 – £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,095

EAST/WEST KENT AND MEDWAY

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

Could you help chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their use and begin shaping better lifestyles? It is a big challenge that will see you work closely with medical staff as you deliver assessment and key worker support to people accessing the substitute prescribing service.

Significant experience of working with individuals with drug related problems is desirable, along with a qualification to diploma level in a relevant area – nursing, counselling or social work for example. As for your future, there is the opportunity to make a huge impact on people's lives and help grow our services into the future working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote ref: 560.

Closing date: 1 May 2009.

Interview date: 15 May 2009 in Maidstone.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

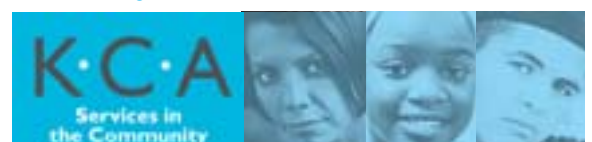




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Biddenden,

Require a Sous Chef & Chef à la Partie

to become part of the team at this celebrated golf course. Excellent rates of pay for the right applicant.

Apply in the first instance by sending your CV and covering letter to head chef Jason Wearn by:

email: kitchen@charrhills.co.uk phone: 01580 292222 or post to:

Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane, Biddenden, Kent TN278JX.

References will be required.



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Manager - County Youth Choirs

Working for Kent's renowned music provider Kent Music this is an exciting post which will require someone with a musical background and management experience to manage the day to day operation of the County Choirs.

The post is permanent and it is expected the post holder will work a minimum of 780 hours per annum. Please see our website for full details of salary and hours.

For more information please contact Denise Milne at Kent Music on 01622 358435 or dmilne@kent-music.com or go to our website: www.kent-music.com to download an application form.

Deadline for applications 1st May with interviews the following week.

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KOS Media, publisher of the award-winning Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer, and our midweek titles and associated websites, has a vacancy for a

Freelance sub-editor

We are currently looking for a freelance sub-editor for three days work a week. Candidates must have excellent QuarkXpress skills and be competent at using Adobe Photoshop.

You will be able to spot a typo at 100 paces and be able to write attention-grabbing headlines.

• To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Dave Hobday, Head of Subbing or email dave.hobday@kosmedia.co.uk.



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KOS Media
Apple Barn,
Hythe Road, Smeeth
Kent TN25 6SR

RECEPTIONIST

MotorSport Vision, the UK's largest motor racing circuit operator owning Brands Hatch, Cadwell Park, Oulton Park, Snetterton and Bedford Autodrome, is currently seeking an efficient, customer focused Receptionist to join the team at Brands Hatch.

The successful candidate will be responsible for welcoming all visitors to the Brands Hatch Circuit and answering all incoming calls, ensuring they are dealt with professionally and politely at all times. In addition they will provide the venue with administrative support, as directed by the Group Head of Sales and Marketing.

Highly organised, they will have the ability to work under their own initiative, have a smart, professional appearance and a friendly outgoing manner.

A minimum of two good A-levels or equivalent are required, along with an excellent telephone manner, written and spoken English and a working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of and enthusiasm for motorsport would be an advantage.

Please apply in writing, including salary expectations, notice period and current CV, to:

Katie Dickens, Group Human Resources Officer,
MotorSport Vision Limited, Brands Hatch Circuit, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent DA3 8NG
or email katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk



BrandsHatch

We're moving in so you can move up.

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There's a brand new name in Folkestone. Direct Choice. And that means terrific career opportunities for people who believe that the customer comes first every time.

Who's Direct Choice? We're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service.

If that sounds like your kind of company, then you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and a helpful personality.

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Customer Service Agents

For our customers, you'll be the friendly individual at the end of the phone who listens to their needs and meets their requirements promptly and accurately. You'll also keep a sharp eye open for sales opportunities with every call. Ref: SG292/KOS.

Sales Agents

You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. But above all, you must share our commitment to delivering the best service to each and every customer. Ref: SG291/KOS.

To apply, please send your application form including the appropriate reference number to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please call 01303 774888 for an application form. Closing date: 30 April 2009.



KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry for the innovative Kent on Sunday, Kent on Saturday and numerous mid-week newspapers.

We now have vacancies for experienced

Mac Operators

We are looking for experienced, confident, self-motivated team players who wish to gain experience within the industry to further their career.

The individual must have relevant Mac experience including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator. The ability to touch-type would be advantageous.

The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department. Hours will be variable.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to:

Personnel
KOS Media
Apple Barn
Hythe Road
Smeeth
Kent TN25 6SR

or email: personnel@kosmedia.co.uk



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Committed to equal opportunities



Ursuline College

225 Canterbury Road
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Phone 01843 834431 Fax 01843 835365

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Comprehensive 780 on roll

Teaching Assistant

30 hours per week, Term Time only
(38 weeks per year)

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(Hourly rate £7.30-£8.28)

Required immediately to support students with Special Educational Needs. Applicants must have a genuine concern for young people and should be able to support pupils up to GCSE level.

Experience may be an advantage. Flexibility, good communication skills and a sense of humour are essential.

The successful candidate will be required to undertake a CRB Enhanced Disclosure check prior to the start of employment.

Please apply in writing for an application pack at the above address to

Mrs Angela Bamford, Director of Pastoral Care,
or via email to: info1@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday 28th April 2009

Interviews to be held Friday 1st May 2009

Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/volunteers to share this commitment.



Career Opportunities

.....
Sheppey College is an equal opportunities employer



Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Supply Lecturer Administration

Ref: S/SH/Admin

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

.....
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 noon.

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to Town Centre



CLICK
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



CALL
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Career Opportunities

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer



Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Head of Faculty Arts, Media and Publishing 09/11

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £42,128 per annum

Manager Health & Social Care 06/110

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum

Temporary Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and Environmental Conservation 09/04

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.

Supply Registered Dental Nurse or Registered Hygienist required to lecturer on a range of courses S/RDN

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturer required in the following areas:

Floristry

S/FL

Security

S/SEC

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Examinations Coordinator ECO

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:

Early Years

S/NVQ/EY

Playwork

S/NVQ/PW

Cleaning Support (Cleaning and Domestic)

S/NVQ/CS

Security

S/NVQ/SEC

Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers within the Faculty of Engineering and Construction S/EC

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

We run a wide range of courses from basic to advanced level and we are looking for professionals from the various trades to join our team of part-time staff. You will need to have suitable qualifications – such as C&G, BTEC, IMI, CITB or similar and current experience in one of the areas. We offer a teacher training programme to suitable applicants who wish to join us in providing this important service to the local community.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Mechanical Engineering | • Vehicle electrics | • Plumbing |
| • Bench fitting | • Brickwork | • Gas fitting |
| • Turning and milling | • Carpentry | • Key Skills |
| • CAD | • Electrical installation | • Mathematics |
| • Welding | • Vehicle painting | • ICT |
| • Motor vehicle mechanics | • Vehicle body work | • Any other related trade |
| • Vehicle parts | | |

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

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| • Pension & Life Assurance Scheme | • Sports Hall & Gym |
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www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



CALL

01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay. Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk



The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Maidstone Mediation
- charity no 1052104

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

We are looking to recruit a VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER

to work within the
Folkestone Youth Offending Team
helping victims of crime access
Restorative Justice processes.

Starting salary 19,500pa
– Own car essential (mileage allowance paid)

The post holder will need to have good communication and IT skills. Training will be provided.

For an application pack please email
mediationscheme@btconnect.com

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Salary up to £41,031 plus cash alternative £3,900

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SENIOR CORPORATE DEBT OFFICER – Salary up to £30,210

An experienced Corporate Debt Officer to develop a corporate debt unit dealing with the collection of both Housing Benefit Overpayments and Sundry Debts.

For more details and an application pack download at www.shepway.gov.uk,
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answerphone service on 01303 853481.
Closing date for completed applications is
Friday 1 May 2009.

Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY
Tel: 01303 853000
www.shepway.gov.uk

Folkestone

Hythe & Romney Marsh
Shepway District Council



Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.

DELCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Tideway, Rochester, Kent Telephone 01634 845242

MIDDAY MEALS SUPERVISOR

An opportunity has arisen for a responsible and reliable person to join Delce Junior School as a Midday Meals Supervisor. The post involves the supervision of pupils during the lunch break ensuring their safety and welfare, that good standards of behaviour are observed and that meals are taken in an orderly manner.

The contracted hours are 5 hours 50 minutes per week, term time only. The rate of pay is currently £6.20 per hour.

Application forms and Job Descriptions may be collected from the school office between 9.00am and 4.00pm, alternatively, they can be mailed upon receipt of an A4 S.A.E. (48p postage is required).

Offers of appointment will only be made subject to a clear Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure and satisfactory references.

The closing date for the receipt of applications in respect of this post is Friday 24th April 2009

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Accountancy

Accounts Clerk

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday 24 April 2009

Six month contract, Salary dependant on experience. Clive Emson Auctioneers has a vacancy for a full time Accounts Clerk to join our Maidstone office. Duties: All aspects of the running of our busy Accounts department including data inputting, daily management of invoices, payroll, clients account, monthly bank reconciliations and all other duties up to trial balance level. Sage Line 50 experience essential. AAT qualification or equivalent desirable. Apply in writing, with CV to: Miss Andrea Bennett, Clive Emson Auctioneers, Rocky Hill, London Road, Maidstone, ME16 8PY or email andrea@cliveemson.co.uk

To apply/more information: Clive Emson Auctioneers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email andrea@cliveemson.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

RECEPTIONIST

Longfield

Salary: TBA

Motorsport Vision, the UK's largest motor racing circuit operator owning Brands Hatch, Cadwell Park, Oulton Park, Snetterton and Bedford Autodrome, is currently seeking an efficient, customer focused Receptionist to join the team at Brands Hatch. The successful candidate will be responsible for welcoming all visitors to the Brands Hatch Circuit and answering all incoming calls, ensuring they are dealt with professionally and politely at all times. In addition they will provide the venue with administrative support, as directed by the Group Head of Sales and Marketing. Highly organised, they will have the ability to work under their own initiative, have a smart, professional appearance and a friendly outgoing manner. A minimum of two good A-levels or equivalent are required, along with an excellent telephone manner, written and spoken English and a sound working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of and enthusiasm for motorsport would be an advantage. Please apply in writing, including salary expectations, notice period and current CV, to: Katie Dickens Group Human Resources Officer Motorsport Vision Limited Brands Hatch Circuit, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8NG or email katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk

To apply/more information: Motorsport Vision Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Cook

Isle of Sheppey

Salary: TBA

Food hygiene certificate essential. Shifts/hours: Fri - Evening, Sat - Lunch, Sun - Lunch Please contact the

Marina Office on 01795 521562 or email enquiries to swale.marina@virgin.net

To apply/more information:

Swale Marina Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 521562
Email swale.marina@virgin.net

Coffee Shop Assistants

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: TBA

C & H Fabrics Ltd Part-time Coffee Shop Assistants with Excellent cooking, hygiene and customer service skills 5 days per week. Call Coffee Shop Manager, Tel: 01227 459760.

To apply/more information:

C & H Fabrics
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 459760
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Restaurant Manager

Hythe

Salary: TBA

The opportunity has arisen for an experienced and highly motivated Restaurant Manager to work in Kent's premier Fish and Seafood Restaurant. Our ideal candidate must have exacting standards with ability to interact with guests. A willingness to train and develop staff and a good knowledge of wine and beverage service is essential. Please send your CV with covering letter to Mr Stephen Taylor, General Manager at Eastwell Manor to stephentaylor@eastwellmanor.co.uk

To apply/more information:

Hythe Bay Fish Restaurant and Bar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 213000
Email stephentaylor@eastwellmanor.co.uk

Waitresses

Faversham

Salary: TBA

Waitress required for family run village restaurant. Silver service preferred but not essential as training can be given. Own transport necessary. Two or three evenings per week. Age 25 plus. Phone Martins Restaurant 01227 750304.

To apply/more information:

Martins Restaurant
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 750304
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Sous Chef

Ashford

Salary: TBA

To become part of the team at this celebrated golf course. Excellent rates of pay for the right applicant. Apply in the first instance by sending your CV and covering letter to head chef Jason Wearn. Email: kitchen@charthills.co.uk. Phone: 01580 292222 or post to: Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane, Biddenden, Kent TN27 8JX. References will be required.

To apply/more information:

Chart Hills Golf Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01580 292222
Email kitchen@charthills.co.uk

Chef to Partie

Ashford

Salary: TBA

To become part of the team at this celebrated golf course. Excellent rates of pay for the right applicant. Apply in the first instance by sending your

CV and covering letter to head chef Jason Wearn. Email: kitchen@charthills.co.uk. Phone: 01580 292222 or post to: Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane, Biddenden, Kent TN27 8JX. References will be required.

To apply/more information:

Chart Hills Golf Club
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Tel: 01580 292222
Email kitchen@charthills.co.uk

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Cook

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Good Traditional Cook required Full time and Part time cook required at our Day Centres. Part time required to work 3 days a week, 9am to 2pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays plus occasional agreed extra days to cover for staff annual leave. Are you capable of: Cooking up to 40 meals plus per day Planning menus. And have: Good basic cooking skills in traditional style meals Food hygiene certificate (training can be provided) Full clean driving licence. For application form etc please phone 01622 753618, or visit 11 Mill Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XW Both positions will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau

To apply/more information:

Age Concern Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 753618
Email info@ageconcernmaidstone.org.uk

Child Care

Foster Carers

Ashford

Salary: TBA

Foster Carers wanted. The Caldecott foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay. Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk. The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

To apply/more information:

Caldecott Foundation
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 815648
Email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Quantity Surveyor

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA

All candidates must be educated to HND/HNC Building Studies or BSC Quantity Surveying or equivalent and

come from an Engineering/Construction background with a proven track record in Quantity Surveying. The successful applicants must be commercially aware in dealing with sub-contract payments, interim monthly accounts, re-measurement, controlling contracts to budgetary requirements and final accounting. Please apply in writing to Mr N Piper, Piper Double Glazing Ltd, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate Kent CT12 6PP

To apply/more information:

Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

Customer Service Agents

Folkestone

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 30 April 2009

There's a brand new name in Folkestone. Direct Choice. And that means terrific career opportunities for people who believe that the customer comes first every time. Who's Direct Choice? We're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service. If that sounds like your kind of company, then you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family - that also includes sga and The AA - we can offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package. For our customers, you'll be the friendly individual at the end of the phone who listens to their needs and meets their requirements promptly and accurately. You'll also keep a sharp eye open for sales opportunities with every call. To apply, please send your application form including the appropriate reference number to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Saga group limited, Embrook Park, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3SE or email. Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from www.saga.co.uk www.directchoice.com

To apply/more information:

Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SG292/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Maidstone

Salary: Band 3 Kent Scheme

Closing Date: Friday 24 April

Science Laboratory Technician,

35 hours per week for 38 weeks a year (term time only). For further information please contact the Headteacher's P.A. Mrs. Theisen on telephone number 01622 689422 or email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. You can also visit our website to download an application form and job description at www.st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. Interviews will take place shortly afterwards. We are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

To apply/more information:

St Simon Stock Catholic School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01662 689422
Email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk

DESIGN and TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN

Maidstone

Salary: Band 3 Kent Scheme

Closing Date: Friday 24 April 2009 @ 2pm

Design & Technology Technician, part-time for 38 weeks a year (term time only). For further information please contact the Headteacher's P.A. Mrs. Theisen on telephone number 01622 689422 or email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. You can also visit our website to download an application form and job description at www.st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. Interviews will take place shortly afterwards. We are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

To apply/more information:

St Simon Stock Catholic School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 689422
Email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Food Technology / Textiles - MPS

Ashford

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Tuesday 21st April 2009 at 4pm

As a Specialist Technology College we are seeking to appoint a well-qualified, enthusiastic and energetic teacher to join this successful and developing department that is expanding into KS5 with Food Technology and Textiles. Ability to teach other design and technology subjects would be an advantage. For further information please contact the Headteacher's P.A. Mrs. Theisen on telephone number 01622 689422 or email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. You can also visit our website to download an application form and job description at www.st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk. Closing date, Tuesday 21st April 2009 at 4pm - interviews will take place shortly afterwards. We are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults

To apply/more information:

St Simon Stock Catholic School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 689422
Email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk

Personal Tutor

Medway

Salary: £20,368 - £26,255 per annum/pro rata

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Closing Date: Friday 17 April 2009

We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:

Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0316
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors - Security

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

For an application pack, please visit

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/SEC
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply NVQ Assessors - Early Years

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

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www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/SEC
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Lecturers within the Faculty of Engineering and Construction

Canterbury

Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

We run a wide range of courses from basic to advanced level and we are looking for professionals from the various trades to join our team of part-time staff. You will need to have suitable qualifications - such as C&G,

BTEC, IMI, CITB or similar and current experience in one of the areas. We offer a teacher training programme to suitable applicants who wish to join us providing this important service to the local community. Mechanical, Engineering, Bench Fitting, Turning and milling, CAD, Welding, Motor Vehicles mechanics, Vehicle parts, Vehicle electrics, Brickwork, Carpentry, Electrical installation, Vehicle painting, Vehicle body work, Plumbing, Gas fitting, Key Skills, Mathematics, ICT, Any other related trade. For an application pack, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/EC
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply NVQ Assessors - Security

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

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- Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

For an application pack, please visit

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/PW
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply NVQ Assessors - Early Years

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

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www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/PW
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply NVQ Assessors - Early Years

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon

Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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- Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

For an application pack, please visit

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:

Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/PW
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply NVQ Assessors - Early Years

Canterbury

Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon



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JobsforKent.co.uk

or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/EY
Tel: 01227 811282

Exams Coordinator

Canterbury
Salary: £18,963 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ECO
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Lecturer - Security

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/SEC
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Lecturer - Floristry

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Various hours available
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE

Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/FL
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Registered Dental Nurse of Registered Hygienist

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa

Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Required to lecture on a range of courses. Various hours. Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/RDN
Tel: 01227 811282

Temporary Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and Environmental Conservation

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 PA
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Staff benefits include:
• Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme

• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/04
Tel: 01227 811282

Vacancies filled fast online with

JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Manager Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 PA
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

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• Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/110
Tel: 01227 811282

Head of Faculty Arts, Media and Publishing

Canterbury
Salary: £42,128 pa
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Staff benefits include:
• Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
• Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme

For an application pack, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 09/11
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Lecturer Administration

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 Noon
Various Hours available.
Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Staff benefits include:
• Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
• Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations
• Close to City Centre
• Sports Hall and Gym
• Generous Holiday Allowance
• Staff Discount Scheme
For an application pack to apply, please visit
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answer phone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/SH/Admin
Tel: 01227 811282

Teaching Assistant

Thanet
Salary: Kent Scheme Payscale 3
Closing Date: Tuesday 28th April 2009
30 hours per week, Term Time only (38 weeks per year) Kent Scheme Payscale 3, Points 7-11 (Hourly rate £7.30-£8.28)
Required immediately to support students with Special Educational Needs. Applicants must have a genuine concern for young people and should be able to support pupils up to GCSE level. Experience may be an advantage. Flexibility, good communication skills and a sense of humour are essential. The successful candidate will be required to undertake a CRB Enhanced Disclosure check prior to the start of employment. Please apply in writing for an application pack at the below address to Mrs Angela Bamford, Director of Pastoral Care Ursuline College 225 Canterbury Road Westgate-on-Sea Kent CT8 8LX Phone 01843 834431 Fax 01843 835365 or via email to: info1@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday 28th April 2009 Interviews to be held Friday 1st May 2009
Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/ volunteers to share this commitment.

To apply/more information:
Ursuline College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 834431
Email
info1@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Manager – County Youth Choirs

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 1 May 2009
Working for Kent's renowned

music provider Kent Music this is an exciting post which will require someone with a musical background and management experience to manage the day to day operation of the County Choirs. The post is permanent and it is expected the post holder will work a minimum of 780 hours per annum. Please see our website for full details of salary and hours. For more information please contact Denise Milne at Kent Music on 01622 358435 or dmilne@kent-music.com or go to our website: www.kent-music.com to download an application form. Deadline for applications 1st May with interviews the following week.

To apply/more information:
Denise Milne
Kent Music School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 358435
Email dmilne@kent-music.com

Teacher for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties

Rochester
Salary: See Below
To commence Sept 2009 MPS + 2 SEN Points + TLR 2C (with previous experience) £2422 The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Closing Date: 8th May 2009. For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338224), stating the position for which you are applying.

To apply/more information:
Abbey Court School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 338224
Email
tayl1036@medway.org.uk

TEACHERS

Broadstairs
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12 Noon 8th May 2009
Creative, committed, enthusiastic and resilient TEACHERS do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL. If you would like to join them from September 2009 to August 2010, we are confident that:- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have. It will certainly be the most satisfying. Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in

Communication and Behaviour Management. Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies. OFSTED 2009 said, "Bradstow is an outstanding school" "The curriculum and the quality of teaching and support are exceptional" "It is to the tremendous credit of a highly skilled and well-qualified team of teachers and support staff that they enable pupils to overcome and cope with the substantial learning and emotional barriers that they face" "Bradstow is a very complex organization and a centre of excellence in its own field" If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well! For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email
personnel@bradstow.wandswoth.sch.uk. Please note that CVs will not be considered. Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, 8th May 2009.

To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@bradstow.wandswoth.sch.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Estimator

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies. Sales Manager Commercial Manager Estimator Design Manager Design Engineers. All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216.

To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 233216
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Design Manager

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing

and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies. Sales Manager Commercial Manager Estimator Design Manager Design Engineers. All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216.

To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 233216
Email A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk

Design Engineers

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies. Sales Manager Commercial Manager Estimator Design Manager Design Engineers. All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216.

To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 233216
Email A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

Experienced Wood Machinist

Ashford
Salary: TBA
The Old Sawmills Furniture Co Ltd, Bethersden Requires a very experienced Wood Machinist Using various Panel Saws, Overhead Routers etc. Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm. To apply call 01233 822417 or email: info@oldsawmills.com

To apply/more information:
Old Sawmills Furniture Company Ltd (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 822417
Email info@oldsawmills.com

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Revenues Manager

Folkestone
Salary: £41,031 pa
Closing Date: Friday 1 May 2009
Salary up to £41,031 plus cash alternative £3,900 A highly talented and enthusiastic Revenues professional to lead their Council Tax, Business Rates

and Sundry Debt processing and recovery sections. For more details and an application pack download at www.shepway.gov.uk, or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk alternatively call our 24 hour answerphone service on 01303 853481.

To apply/more information:
Shepway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 853481
Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Senior Corporate Debt Officer

Folkestone
Salary: £30,210 pa
Closing Date: Friday 1 May 2009
An experienced Corporate Debt Officer to develop a corporate debt unit dealing with the collection of both Housing Benefit Overpayments and Sundry Debts. For more details and an application pack download
www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk
Alternatively call our 24 hour answerphone service on 01303 853481.

To apply/more information:
Shepway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 853481
Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Bar Staff
Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Bar work experience and food hygiene certificate preferable. Shifts/hours to suit Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon. Please contact the Marina Office on 01795 521562 or e-mail enquiries swale.marina@virgin.net

To apply/more information:
Swale Marina Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 521562
Email swale.marina@virgin.net

Management, Senior Positions

BRANCH MANAGEMENT STAFF

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 28th April 2009
Kent and East Sussex area. Salary negotiable dependant on experience. We are Kent's largest independent motor factor with 6 branches across the South East with 25 years experience of supplying car parts to garages and workshops. We are shortly looking to expand our branch network and are therefore looking to employ branch management staff in the Kent and East Sussex area. As a member of our branch management team, you will be responsible for managing all aspects of a branch, such as overseeing all branch staff, ensuring customer needs are met effectively and efficiently by both delivery and counter sales, and achieving set targets for profit and sales. Previous experience of managing a motor factor branch is essential. Candidates will need to prove they have extensive management experience within the motor factor trade.



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All correspondence will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. To apply, please forward your CV to humanresources@scmf.co.uk or alternatively call Peta Budd on 0208 308 6812. Closing date for applications: 28th April 2009.

To apply/more information:
SC Motor Factors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 3086812
Email humanresources@scmf.co.uk

Commercial Manager

Gillingham

Salary: TBA

Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies. Sales Manager Commercial Manager Estimator Design Manager Design Engineers. All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216.

To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 233216
Email A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

e-Commerce Marketing Executive

Dover

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 1 May 2009
This is an exciting role for an experienced Marketing Executive to work in a fun, friendly team. You will need to be passionate about online marketing and taking an active role in all e-commerce Marketing projects with the team. The main responsibilities include Maintenance of our website (ensuring it is always kept up to date) plus testing of new developments; Search Engine Optimisation and Pay per Click activity management; Affiliate abd partner relationship development and management; Creating and managing domains and microsites for the SeaFrance profile; Assisting with the continued development of the Customer Relationship Management programme. Key to this role is the ability to understand and influence consumers through online marketing to bring them through the website and encourage them to book. Other areas of responsibility include running, updating and circulating reports for activities, liaising with external agencies and internal departments to ensure we maximise our revenue and co-ordinate activity. We're looking for someone who is dynamic, has a creative flair and can provide evidence of delivering in a fast-paced environment. Online Marketing experience is essential and must include an in-depth understanding of Search Engines and website usability. Knowledge of html and content management systems is preferred. You must be educated to a minimum of

A-level standard and have CIM qualification of equivalent. A good command of the English language for writing copy is required as well as direct marketing experience to support our busy marketing team. Whats in it for you? A competitive salary; 23 days holiday per year rising to 26 days, plus statutory holidays; contributory pension; life assurance cover and concessionary travel benefits. To apply, please send your CV and covering letter detailing salary expectations to Human Resources, SeaFrance Ltd, Whitfield Court, Honeywood Close, Whitfield, Dover, CT16 3PX or email us.

To apply/more information:
SeaFrance
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email recruitment@seafrance.fr

Motor Trade, Driver

PARTS ASSISTANT

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: TBA

Parts Assistant for busy parts department. Parts experience is essential. Nissan knowledge an advantage. Clean driving license required.

To apply/more information:
Guy Tong
Baileys Nissan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 766777
Email guy.tong@baileysnissan.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Intervenor for Children and Young People - West Kent

Maidstone

Salary: £23,053

Closing Date: Midday, 21st April 2009

With Multisensory Impairment/Deafblind Starting salary £23,053 with progression through contributed related pay to £26,421 pro rata. 25 hours per week Fixed term post until 31st March 2011. This is an exciting initiative under Aiming High for Disabled Children: Better Support for Families. This is an opportunity for practitioners experienced in working with children and young people with sensory impairment to work as intervenors with deafblind children from birth to 19 years of age. Also working with families to develop and support individual communication modes, you will support children and young people with Multisensory Impairment (MSI) /deafblind to participate in extended services and community activities and so to enable families to experience "short breaks". Working within the Specialist Teaching Service and in liaison with Disabled Children's Service, you will enable service providers to communicate effectively with children and young people with MSI/deafblind and to support smooth transitions. You should hold a suitable qualification within this field at NVQ level 3, or equivalent coupled with an additional qualification in MSI/

deafblind, sign language, Braille, mobility or guide-communicator. The 25 hours per week will be delivered flexibly to meet the needs of children, young people and their families as the post is likely to require some work in the evenings and/or weekends. The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day to meet the requirements of the service is essential. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247904. Please quote the reference.

To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/09/0113
Tel: 0845 8247904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

people and their families as the post is likely to require some work in the evenings and/or weekends. The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day to meet the requirements of the service is essential. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247904. Please quote the reference.

To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/09/0113
Tel: 0845 8247904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Intervenor for Children and Young People -

Whitstable

Salary: £23,053 pro rata Closing Date: Midday, 21st April 2009

With Multisensory Impairment/Deafblind Starting salary £23,053 with progression through contributed related pay to £26,421 pro rata. 25 hours per week Fixed term post until 31st March 2011. This is an exciting initiative under Aiming High for Disabled Children: Better Support for Families. This is an opportunity for practitioners experienced in working with children and young people with sensory impairment to work as intervenors with deafblind children from birth to 19 years of age. Also working with families to develop and support individual communication modes, you will support children and young people with Multisensory Impairment (MSI) /deafblind to participate in extended services and community activities and so to enable families to experience "short breaks". Working within the Specialist Teaching Service and in liaison with Disabled Children's Service, you will enable service providers to communicate effectively with children and young people with MSI/deafblind and to support smooth transitions. You should hold a suitable qualification within this field at NVQ level 3, or equivalent coupled with an additional qualification in MSI/

deafblind, sign language, Braille, mobility or guide-communicator. The 25 hours per week will be delivered flexibly to meet the needs of children, young people and their families as the post is likely to require some work in the evenings and/or weekends. The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day to meet the requirements of the service is essential. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247904. Please quote the reference.

To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 560
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Community Drug Workers

Kent

Salary: £21,306 - £27,573 pa
Closing Date: 1 May 2009
+ Essential car allowance of up to £1,095 East/West Kent and Medway KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. Could you help chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their use and begin shaping better lifestyles? It is a big challenge that will see you work closely with medical staff as you deliver assessment and key worker support to people accessing the substitute prescribing service. Significant experience of working with individuals with drug related problems is desirable, along with a qualification to diploma level in a relevant area - nursing, counselling or social work for example. As for your future, there is the opportunity to make a huge impact on people's lives and help grow our services into the future working as part of a multi-disciplinary team. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote the reference.

To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 560
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

RGN/SEN Footnurses

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

RGN/SEN Footnurses required with current NMC essential Must be willing to travel throughout Borough of Maidstone. Full driving license and own transport essential. Training provided. Remuneration for each client treated will be paid plus travelling expenses. For application form etc please phone 01622 753618, or visit 11 Mill Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XW. Both positions will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply/more information:
Age Concern Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 753618
Email info@ageconcernmaidstone.org.uk

VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER

Folkestone

Salary: £19,500 pa

We are looking to recruit a VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER to work within the Folkestone Youth Offending Team helping victims of crime access Restorative Justice processes. Starting salary 19,500pa – Own car essential (mileage allowance paid) The post holder will need to have good communication and IT skills. Training will be provided. For an application pack please email mediationscheme@btconnect.com

To apply/more information:
Maidstone Mediation
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mediationscheme@btconnect.com

Other

THE POTENTIAL TO EARN LIKE A CEO WITH MORE FREEDOM

Ashford

Salary: TBA

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To apply/more information:
Global Success
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07861 238109
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Recycling Advisors and Supervisors

Kent

Salary: See Below
Recycling Advisors/Supervisors required to join our exciting Public Engagement Team, working across Kent on behalf of the Kent Waste Partnership to promote recycling to residents. Advisors: £7.00 p/h + expenses. Supervisors: £8.25 p/h + expenses. All positions full time (max 40 hours per week) for 11 weeks. Must be able to work evenings and weekends. Start date 08/05/09. For an application form contact Azim Khan at M+E-L Research on 0121 604 4664 or email azim.khan@m-e-l.co.uk.

To apply/more information:
MEL Research
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0121 604 4664
Email azim.khan@m-e-l.co.uk

Economic Development Officer

Canterbury

Salary: £20,517 - £25,719 pa Closing Date: 17 April @ 12 Noon

Chief Executive's Department - 37 hours per week Canterbury City Council is a big business with a turnover of more than £100 million and over 900 employees. Rated an Excellent Council and a Times Best Council to Work for, Canterbury is a great place to work. Our conditions include final salary pension scheme plus benefits, flexible working hours and relocation package (where applicable). We are looking for an individual to manage projects that promote and support local economic development. You will demonstrate an understanding of economic development issues and have excellent communications skills to develop relationships within the organisation and with partners including the business community. –We prefer applications on-line. For further details of this position and all our latest opportunities and to apply on-line, visit our website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs or email jobs@canterbury.gov.uk. You can also call 01227 862072 (24 hour answerphone) We can supply application packs in Braille or large print format if required.

To apply/more information:
Canterbury City Council
Quoting Job Ref: 1814
Tel: 01227 862072
Email jobs@canterbury.gov.uk

Transmanche Enterprise Network Project Officer

Canterbury

Salary: £25,729 - £28,191 pa pro rata

Closing Date: 17 April @ 12 Noon

Chief Executive's Department - 22/5 hours per week - Three year fixed term contract Canterbury City Council is a big business with a turnover of more than £100 million and over 900 employees. Rated an Excellent Council and a Times Best Council to Work for, Canterbury is a great place to work. Our conditions include final salary pension scheme plus benefits, flexible working hours and relocation package (where applicable). Are you self-motivated, excellent at project management and partnership development and experienced in European funding? This exciting role involves supporting and encouraging entrepreneurship, the development of micro businesses and encouraging cross border trading. French or french language skills would be an advantage and the ability to travel and work flexible hours are required. We prefer applications on-line. For further details of this position and all our latest opportunities and to apply on-line, visit our website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs or email jobs@canterbury.gov.uk. You can also call 01227 862072 (24 hour answerphone) We can supply application packs in Braille or large print format if required.

To apply/more information:
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Email jobs@canterbury.gov.uk

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Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales Agents

Folkestone

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 30 April 2009
There's a brand new name in Folkestone. Direct Choice. And that means terrific career opportunities for people who believe that the customer comes first every time. Who's Direct Choice? We're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service. If that sounds like your kind of company, then you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every

step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family - that also includes sga and The AA - we can offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package. You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. But above all, you must share our commitment to delivering the best service to each and every customer. To apply, please send your application form including the appropriate reference number to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Saga group limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3SE or email. Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from www.saga.co.uk www.directchoice.com

To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SG291/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Sales Manager

Gillingham

Salary: TBA

Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies. Sales Manager Commercial Manager Estimator Design Manager Design Engineers. All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216.

To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 233216
Email A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Night Shunter / Refueller

Rochester

Salary: £9.00/hour
Our client in Hoo is looking for a Night Shunter to carry out refuelling duties for their fleet of vehicles. Hours of work are Monday to Friday, 1700 to 2200. The work will involve refuelling each vehicle one by one, carrying out as many as possible within the 5 hours. Candidates must hold an LGV C+E licence, and ideally have experience of driving a wide variety of vehicles, from Class 1 to Van. Due to insurance, applicants must be over 25, have no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRS or DDS) and have over 2 years relevant experience. This role is on a temporary to permanent basis over 13 weeks, after which the successful candidate will transfer to our client's employ.

To apply/more information:
Andy or Alex
Best Connection Agency
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664999
Email maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

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Highways – District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (ROMAN ROAD, ALDINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Roman Road, Aldington from outside the property Cobb's Hall, west for a distance of 200 metres, from 5 May 2009 for an estimated period of one week or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Roman Road, Knoll Hill, Gigger's Green Road, Boat Lane, New Road Hill and Forge Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BRIDEWELL LANE, TENTERDEN) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Bridewell Lane, Tenterden, between the junction with the High Street and the junction with the Highbury Lane car park area, from 24 April 2009, for an estimated period of 6 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via High Street and Highbury Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because inspections of Channel Tunnel Rail Link bridges are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Ashford, as described in columns 1 & 2 of the Schedule, from 21 April 2009, for an estimated period of two days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

SCHEDULE			
Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative route	Programmed date
Phase 1			
Leacon Lane, Charing	20 metres either side of the CTRL bridge	Pluckley Road, Calehill Road and Hurstford Lane	From 21 April 2009 for up to one day.
Phase 2			
Godinton Lane, Hothfield	20 metres either side of the CTRL bridge	Station Road, Coach Drive, Waterfall Road and Godinton Lane	From 22 April 2009 for up to one day.

Highways – Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HILLHOUSE ROAD, STONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hillhouse Road, Stone between its junctions of A226 London Road and St Johns Road.

The Order will become effective on 20th April 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last up to 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: A226 London Road, St Johns Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the installation of a new electrical supply.

Highways – District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (RICHBOROUGH ROAD, SANDWICH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Network Rail track maintenance works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Richborough Road, Sandwich from 30 metres each side of the level crossing on or after 25 April 2009 between the hours of 01:00am Saturday 25 April to 04:00am Sunday 26 April or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Richborough Road, Cop Street Road, A257 Sandwich Road and Ash Road.

Highways – Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A20 ASHFORD ROAD OVERBRIDGE OVER THE MOTORWAY LINK ROAD AT JUNCTION 8 OF THE M20 MOTORWAY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the A20 Ashford Road Overbridge over the motorway link road at junction 8 of the M20 Motorway on or after Monday 4th May 2009 for a period of up to 6 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via A20 Ashford Road and the roundabout at the A20 junction M20 motorway access road.

InterRoute apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for maintenance works on the embankments of the bridge. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Salim Munirur on 01634 385500.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (GRAVELLY BOTTOM ROAD, KINGSWOOD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Gravelly Bottom Road between Apiary Business Park and Gravelly Bungalow on or after Monday 20th April 2009 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Broomfield Road, Chartway Street, A274 Maidstone Road, B2163 Leeds Road, Ulcombe Road and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electricity supply, should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Emma Orsborne of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

Highways – District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HOSEY COMMON ROAD, WESTERHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hosey Common Road, Westerham between the two boundaries of property numbered 6.

The Order will become effective on 4th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 2 weeks and commence on 5th May 2009. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Kent Hatch Road, A25 Westerham Road, A25 High Street, A25 Vicarage Hill

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electric cabling diversion works and water mains diversion works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL WOOD STREET, SWANLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Wood Street, Swanley between its junctions with Button Street and Gildenhall Road.

The Order will become effective on 4th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 1 week and commence on 5th May 2009. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: A20 London Road, A225 Dartford Road and Ship Lane

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electric cabling works to be undertaken on behalf of EDF Energy.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HOLMESDALE HILL, SOUTH DARENTH (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Holmesdale Hill, South Darenth from its junction with Gills Road for a distance of 450 metres.

The Order will become effective on 4th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 3 days and commence on 5th May 2009. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Shrubbery Road, Rabbits Road, Canada Farm Road, Green Street Green Road, St Maragarets Road, Holmesdale Hill

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate aerial cable renewal works on behalf of BT.

Highways – District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (MELON LANE, IVYCHURCH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because telegraph pole and aerial cable works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Melon Lane, Ivychurch from the junction with Ashford Road to the junction with Newchurch Lane on or after 4 May 2009 for an estimated period of 5 days working 08:00am to 17:00pm or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Ashford Road and Newchurch Road.

Highways – District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, FAVERSHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to enable the installation of a gas main and associated connections to be carried out in safety, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Faversham, as described in columns 1 & 2 of the Schedule, on or after 20 April 2009, for an estimated period of 18 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative routes for through traffic will be via as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

SCHEDULE			
Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes	Programmed date
Phase 1			
West Street, Faversham	Rolling closure in two sections between the junctions with Caslocke Street & South Road.	Stonebridge Way and Lower Road. HGV's via Western Link to A2.	20 April 2009 for up to 8 weeks.
West Street, Faversham.	Whole length – suspension of existing one way system to two way traffic for access.	N/A	20 April 2009 for up to 8 weeks.
Phase 2			
Caslocke Street, Faversham.	Whole length	West Street, South Road, and Fielding Street.	15 June for up to 3 weeks
Phase 3			
Hatch Street, Faversham.	Whole length	Fielding Street and Mendfield Street.	6 July for up to 2 weeks.
Phase 4			
Beckett Street, Faversham.	Whole length.	Hatch Street, Fielding Street and Mendfield Street.	20 July for up to 3 weeks.
Hatch Street, Faversham.	Whole length – suspension of existing one way system to two way traffic for access.	N/A	20 July for up to 3 weeks.
Phase 5			
Mendfield Street, Faversham.	At its junction with Napleton Road.	Fielding Street, Hatch Street and Beckett Street.	3 August for up to 5 days.

Mendfield Street, Faversham.	Whole length – suspension of existing one way system to two way traffic for access.	N/A	3 August for up to 5 days.
Phase 6			
Napleton Road, Faversham.	From its junction with South Road to its junction with Mendfield Street.	Lower Road, Stonebridge Way, Curtis Way and either Tanner Street or West Street, Caslocke Street, Hatch Street and Beckett Street. Light vehicles only via South Road, Fielding Street and Hatch Street.	10 August for up to 5 days.
Tanner Street, Faversham.	Between West Street and Napleton Road – reversal of existing one way system for access.	N/A	10 August for up to 5 days.

This Order will come into force on Monday 20 April 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs and barriers are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WILGATE GREEN ROAD, THROWLEY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Wilgate Green Road, Throwley, between Wilgate Green Farm and The Oast House, on or after 20 April 2009, for an estimated period of two weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative routes for through traffic will be for traffic from Throwley Road to continue along Throwley Road, Bagshill Road and Parsonage Stocks Road; traffic from Plumford Road should continue along Plumford Road, then A251 Ashford Road, Old Badgins Road and Parsonage Stocks Road.

Highways – Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER, 2009

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act.

The effect of the Order is to consolidate into one document the provisions of the Kent County Council (Various Roads, Tonbridge and Malling) (Waiting Restrictions and On-street Parking Places (Consolidation) Order, 2008 and any subsequent amendments thereto.

The Order was made on 13 April 2009, and will come into effect on 1 May 2009.

Copies of the made Order together with any Orders revoked by the made Order, and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ and Tonbridge Castle, Castle Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1BG.

Any person wishing to question the validity of an Order or of any of its provisions on the ground that is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that a requirement of any such enabling Act or of any relevant regulations made thereunder has not been complied with may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made, make application for the purpose to the High Court.

If you have any questions concerning the made Orders or require further information please contact 01732 876222 during normal office hours.

This Notice is published on behalf of Kent Highway Services, Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009/10 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on High Street, West Malling between the entrance to the short stay car park and its junction with Swan Street.

The Order will become effective on 26th April 2009, for the dates as shown in schedule 1 between the hours of 6am and 2pm, or, until completion of the event. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill.

The purpose of the Order is to support the Farmers Markets taking place:

Schedule 1	
Sunday 26th April 2009	Sunday 25th October 2009
Sunday 24th May 2009	Sunday 22nd November 2009
Sunday 28th June 2009	Sunday 20th December 2009
Sunday 26th July 2009	Sunday 24th January 2010
Sunday 23rd August 2009	Sunday 28th February 2010
Sunday 27th September 2009	Sunday 28th March 2010.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit
www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Highways – Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (SWATLING LEVEL CROSSING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Watling level crossing on or after Thursday 30th April 2009 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for Eastbound traffic via Queens Street, Church Road and Maidstone road, and for Westbound traffic vice versa.

Network Rail apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential track Maintenance purposes, should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Roger Casement on 01227 366000.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VALE ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Vale Road, Tunbridge Wells from the junction of A26 London Road to High Street on or after Sunday 26th April 2009 for 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via High Street, A26 London Road and for northbound traffic via A26 London Road, A264 Church Road, Mount Pleasant Road.

V G Builders Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for gutter clearance work to Post Office Square Building. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Robert Davey on 01342 824561.

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TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/00635/FL – Highlands House 121 Willow Wents Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5NF – Mr And Mrs J Wardell are applying for external alterations including new windows and door openings and single storey rear extensions, covered link and conversion of outbuildings. Reason: LB

TM/09/00385/FL – Preston Hall London Road Aylesford Kent ME20 7NJ – Mr Ian Daccus is applying for stationing of container. Reason: HA LB

TM/09/00698/FL – Walnut Tree Farm Addington Lane Trottscliffe West Malling Kent ME19 5DW – Mr T Venis is applying for two storey extension to house together with part demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of new roof to the remainder. Reason: CA

TM/09/00682/FL – Gate Lodge Cottage 2 New Road East Malling West Malling Kent ME19 6DD – Mr Ian Hardie is applying for change of use of residential to retail and for the demolition of car port and erection of temporary timber shed for a period of two years. Reason: CA

TM/09/00497/LB – Yotes Court Mereworth Road Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5JQ

– Mr R Ricci is applying for Listed Building Application: Raise ceiling level in rear hall and insert structural steel supports due to structural instability. Reason: LB CA

TM/09/00643/LB – 84 High Street West Malling Kent ME19 6NE – Mr Michael Noonan is applying for Listed Building Application: Repair of structural cracking to masonry pier located on the right hand corner of the shop front window. Installation of 6mm thick protective steel plate Steel plate to have a white gloss finish. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/00474/FL – 67 High Street West Malling Kent ME19 6NA – Mr Diljit Brar is applying for replacement shop front. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/00559/FL – 30 High Street Aylesford Kent ME20 7BA – Mr John Whitlock is applying for sub division of ancillary storage to 1st floor and roof void at 2nd floor from ground floor to form 1 no. 1 bedroom flat. Reason: CA

TM/09/00141/FL – 26 Town Hill West Malling Kent ME19 6QN – Mr Michael Harling is applying for demolition of the single storey extension to the rear and its replacement with another extension across the width of the site. Reason: CA

TM/09/00665/FL – Land At Heath Farm North Of Teston Road Wateringbury Maidstone Kent – Rouse Kent (Residential) Ltd are applying for construction of artificial grass pitch with associated fencing and lighting. This artificial surface will be instead of full size grass pitch. Reason: GPI PROW

TM/09/00646/FL – Queens Head 133 Butchers Lane Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5QD – Mrs Linda Sutton is applying for variation of condition 8 of planning consent TM99/02352/FL to allow outside seating on patio area. Reason: CA LB

TM/09/00756/FL – Ivy Cottage Birling Road Ryarsh West Malling Kent ME19 5LS

– Mr Jason And Mrs Plaxly Mathews are applying for raising and converting roof to accommodate an additional bedroom with ensuite. Reason: CA

TM/09/00290/FL – Plaxdale Green Farm Plaxdale Green Road Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PD – Mr Anthony Houlding is applying for conversion of redundant barn to two dwellings with annexe accommodation to part and outbuilding for covered parking. Reason: DEPART

TM/09/00587/FL & TM/09/00588/LB – Mote Farm Mote Road Ivy Hatch Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0NT – The National Trust are applying for change of use of part of old farmyard to gardener's compound and minor alterations to buildings plus foul sewer connection. Reason: PROW LB CA GPI

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB	Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA	Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
PROW	Application affects a Public Right of Way
DEPART	Application does not accord with the Development Plan
GPI	Application is of general Public Interest
HA	Site is over 1ha.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tbmc.gov.uk – click on the button "Do It Online" and follow the instructions for "Planning Applications" online. You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tbmc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below).

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 10 May 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
19 April 2009



The Insolvency Act 1986 JALS LLP

**T/A The Chequers Inn
(In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation)**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we, RICHARD FRANK SIMMS and MARTIN RICHARD BUTTRISS of F A Simms & Partners Limited, Insol House, 39 Station Road, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, LE17 4AP were appointed Joint Liquidators of the said Company on 8 April 2009.
NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before the 22 May 2009 to send their names and addresses, particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitor (if any) to: MARTIN RICHARD BUTTRISS of F A Simms & Partners Limited, Insol House, 39 Station Road, Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE17 4AP the Joint Liquidator of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notices, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated: 8 April 2009
R F SIMMS and M R BUTTRISS, Joint Liquidators

TRIPLE H (DESIGN) LIMITED

Company No. 05871206
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at St. Georges Hotel 14-15 Langham Place Regent Street London W1B 2QS on 21/04/2009 at 11.15 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a statement of their claim at the offices of Middleton Partners 38 Langham Street London W1W 7AR not later than 12 noon on the day prior to the meeting. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Middleton Partners 38 Langham Street London W1W 7AR on the two business days immediately preceding the meeting between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. Dated 09/04/2009
HAYLEY HANSON, Director
T255868

BIGART LIMITED

Company Number 04001519
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, on Tuesday 5 May 2009, at 10.15 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act. Forms of proxy to be used at the Meeting, accompanied by a statement of claim, must be lodged at the offices of Vantis Business Recovery Services, Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, the registered office of the Company, not later than 12.00 noon on Friday 1st May 2009.
Mark Newman of Vantis Business Recovery Services, Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, is a person qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the Company who, during the period before the day on which the meeting is to be held, will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated 14 April 2009
By Order of the Board
Kevin Back, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986 GDF VENTILATION & DUCTWORK LIMITED

(In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation)
Notice is hereby given that Duncan Robert Beat of Tonon Recovery, 75 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6JB was appointed Liquidator of the above company on 9th April 2009. Further the creditors of the above are required on or before 10th June 2009, to detail their names and addresses (and solicitors if applicable) together with particulars of their debts or claims, in writing, or in person, to the Liquidator, and as specified by the Liquidator; in default thereof they will be excluded from any benefit arising from the liquidation.
Dated: 9 April 2009
Duncan Robert Beat, Liquidator

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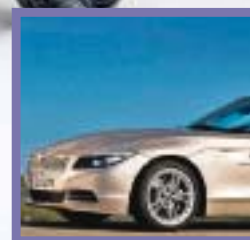
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**INSIDE****BMW fights back** Page 62**Friend of the earth** Page 63**Fiat's greener dream** Pages 66-67

Nissan's snapshot for city car sector

NISSAN has a snappy name for its new city car contender, out on June 1.

But while 'Pixo' evokes a digital photo revolution that sees us snapping away on mobile phones and emailing them seconds later, it is also an unfortunate reminder that this little car duplicates the new Suzuki Alto – these clones are both built by Suzuki's Indian subsidiary Maruti.

However, as we have said so many times, small cars equal small profits so it is no wonder that many carmakers pool resources rather than re-invent the wheels.

We already have the Toyota Aygo/Citroën C1/Peugeot 107, Fiat 500/Ford Ka, Vauxhall Agila/Suzuki Splash, Daihatsu Sirion/Perodua Myvi/Subaru Justy – I could go on...

So, apart from editing the Alto's front and rear ends, Nissan has taken the easy route into a sector booming in the recession and as pressure mounts to cut emissions and running cost.

And the Pixo is in the frame straight away

By **STEVE LOADER**

with prices from a highly competitive £5,995, five doors, an automatic option – increasingly popular in stop-go town traffic – and a 67bhp three-cylinder one-litre engine capable of averaging 64mpg.

With these upfront attractions it seems churlish to point out that 103g/km of CO2 emissions means that the Pixo narrowly misses out on road tax exemption – though £35/year is hardly onerous and the car is in good company.

The Pixo's biggest drawback is more likely to be interior quality that goes with that price tag, though we can expect the Japanese design and technology – albeit Suzuki rather than Nissan – to be robust.

Nissan will offer the car in three familiar trim grades – Visia, Acenta and Tekna – and standard kit on the first includes ABS with electronic brake distribution, twin front airbags, power steering, rear wash/wipe and, possibly number one for young cash-strapped

buyers, an MP3-compatible sound system.

But while the Visia's sub-six grand price tag might draw people over the showroom threshold, the £6,745 Acenta is expected to win most business.

The £750 upgrade brings side airbags, remote central locking, electric front windows, front fog lamps, colour-coded mirrors plus door handles and the convenience of a 50/50 split folding rear seat – it is amazing how much you can miss the last on a small car.

This grade also brings the auto option into play, although this adds a whopping £910 for a four-speed self-changer.

You will have noted that air con has been kept back from the junior grades to give the Pixo its price edge; this comes as standard on the Tekna flagship, but prices then start at £7,745, nearly £2,000 more than that tempting £5,995 lead-in price, intended to have customers leafing through the sales brochure in the first place.



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CITROENS

06 56	CITROEN PICASSO 2-0 EXCLUSIVE AUTO SILVER 5000 MILES.....	£8995
05 05	CITROEN C4 1-6 SX AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER MET 19000 MILES.....	£5495

MAZDA

08 08	MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C BLUE MET 10000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57	MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER MET 14000 MILES.....	£9995
07 56	MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C SILVER MET 11000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06	MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR BRIGHT RED 14000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06	MAZDA 2 CAPELLA AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR TONIC 7000 MILES.....	£6495

SUZUKI

06 06	SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS SILKY SILVER 25000 MILES.....	£5495
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SKODA

08 08	SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C MET GREY 450 MILES.....	£9995
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KIA

06 55	KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£4995
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HONDA

07 57	HONDA CIVIC 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 7000 MILES.....	10995
07 07	HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 1000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06	HONDA CRV SPORT 5DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR BLACK6000 MILES.....	£10495
06 06	HONDA CRV EXEC 5DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£11495
06 06	HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 16000 MILES.....	£9995
06 55	HONDA CRV SPORT 5DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR SILVER 6000 MILES.....	£9995
05 55	HONDA CRV SE AUTO PAS 5DR GRAFFITE GREY 10000 MILES.....	£9995
06 55	HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE SPORT AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER16000MILES.....	£9995
02 52	HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLUE 55000 MILES.....	£4995

HYUNDAI

07 57	HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX AUTO PAS BLUE AIR ALLOYS 12000 MILES.....	£5495
06 56	HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSI PAS AIR/C AUTO BLACK 16000 MILES.....	£5995
06 06	HYUNDAI MATRIX 18 CDX PAS AIR AUTO SHIMMERBLUE15000MILES.....	£6995
06 06	HYUNDAI MATRIX 16 GSI PAS AIR AUTO SHIMMER BLUE10000 MILES.....	£5495
06 06	HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSI PAS AIR AUTO MET GREEN 10000 MILES.....	£5495
06 55	HYUNDAI MATRIX 16 GSI PAS AIR AUTO SHIMMER BLUE20000 MILES.....	£4995

TOYOTA

08 57	TOYOTA AURIS TR 5DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 5000 MILES.....	£10995
06 06	NEW YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 8000 MILES.....	£7995
05 55	YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7695
05 55	YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£6995
05 54	YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 6000 MILES.....	£7995
05 05	YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS GREEN 23000MILES.....	£6995
03 03	YARIS 1-3 GLS 3 DR AUTO PAS CARLO BLUE SUNROOF 24000 MILES.....	£4995

NISSAN

07 57	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 1500 MILES.....	£9995
07 07	NISSAN NOTE 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 1400 MILES.....	£8995
06 56	NISSAN NOTE 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C DARK BLUE 15000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06	NISSAN NOTE 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C YELLOW 15000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06	NISSAN NOTE 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C CAFFE LATTE 32000MILES.....	£5995
06 06	NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 22000 MILES.....	£6495

MG ROVER

03 03	ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES.....	£3495
04 53	ROVER 25i XL 5 DR AUTO PAS BRG/BLACK LEATHER ALLOYS 15000M.....	£3995
01 51	ROVER 45 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 35000 MILES.....	2995

DAIHATSU

06 06	DAIHATSU CHARADE SL 5DR AUTO PAS PURPLE JUST 2000 MILES.....	£5495
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CHEVROLET

08 57	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLUE 5DR 13000 MILES.....	£5695
08 57	CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO AIR/C PAS BLACK 5DR 10000MILES.....	£6495
07 57	CHEVROLET TACUMA 2-0 CDX AUTO PAS AIR MET BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£5495
07 07	CHEVROLET TACUMA 2-0 CDX AUTO PAS AIR MET BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£4995
07 07	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS YELLOW 5DR 2000 MILES.....	£5495
07 56	CHEVROLET TACUMA 2-0 CDX AUTO PAS AIR MET BLUE 7000 MILES.....	£4995
06 06	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLUE 5DR 13000 MILES.....	£4495
06 06	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£4595
06 06	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLACK 25000 MILES.....	£4295
06 06	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS SILVER 1000 MILES.....	£4995
06 06	CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS YELLOW 15000 MILES.....	£4495
06 55	CHEVROLET KALOS 1-4 SX AUTO PAS AIR POLY SILVER 15000 MILES.....	£4995

VOLKSWAGEN

07 57	VW POLO 1-4 S 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 7000 MILES.....	£7995
07 07	VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 12000 MILES.....	£8495
07 07	VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C CORNFLOWER BLUE 3000 MILES.....	£8495
06 56	VW POLO 1-4 S 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE MET 7000 MILES.....	£6995
04 04	VW POLO 1-4 TWIST AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/ BLACK 30000 MILES.....	£5495
99 V	VW GOLF 1-9 TURBO DIESEL SE AUTO PAS MET GREEN 53000 MILES.....	£3995

MONDEO

06 56	MONDEO 2-0 ZETEC ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 8000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06	MONDEO 2-0 LX AUTO 5 DR SALOON PAS AIR/CON KELP 9000 MILES.....	£6995
04 54	MONDEO 2-0 ZETEC ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 20000 MILES.....	£6995

ASTRA

08 57	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR ULTRA BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£7995
08 57	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR PANNACOTTA 7000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57	ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANACOTTA 6000 MILES.....	£7495
07 07	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR TURQUOISE 14000 MILES.....	£6995
07 56	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6495
06 56	ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN 5DR AUTO SILVER LEATHER ALLOYS 24000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06	ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE BLACK 15000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C METRO BLUE 6000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06	ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C POMMEGRANITE 12000 MILES.....	£5995
05 55	ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR HATCH ULTRA BLUE MET 150000MLS.....	£5495
05 05	ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE GREEN 13000 MILES.....	5995

NEW ZAFIRA & MERIVA 5 & 7 STR MPV

07 57	NEW ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07	MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 6000 MILES.....	£6995
07 07	MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 6000 MILES.....	£6995
05 55	MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 15000 MILES.....	£5995
05 54	ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS CD AIR/C DARK BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£5995

RENAULT

07 57	RENAULT MODUS INITIALE 1-6 AUTO PAS LEATHER 9000 MILES.....	£9995
07 57	SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GOLD 16000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07	SCENIC DYNAMIC 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GREEN MET 8000 MILES.....	£7995
07 07	SCENIC GRAND DYNAMIQUE 2-0 AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY 5000MILES.....	£8995
07 07	MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 16000 MILES.....	£6995
07 07	MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 9000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06	RENAULT MODUS 1-6 PRIVILEGE AUTO PAS FLAME RED 7000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06	SCENIC DYNAMIC 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C QUARTZ GOLD 10000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06	RENAULT KANGOO 1-6 EXPRESSION BLUE PAS AUTO 4000 MILES.....	£5995
06 06	RENAULT KANGOO 1-6 EXPRESSION SILVER PAS AUTO 16000 MILES.....	£5495
06 06	SCENIC PRIVILEGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GOLD MET 12000 MILES.....	£6995
06 55	SCENIC PRIVILEGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE MET 15000 MILES.....	£6495
05 55	SCENIC DYNAMIC 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C ANTIQUE GREEN 17000 MILES.....	£5995
05 05	RENAULT MODUS 1-6 DYNAMIQUE AUTO PAS SILVER 13000 MILES.....	£5995

MERCEDES BENZ

08 08	MERCEDES A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR AUTO PAS COMET GREY4000MILES.....	£11995
07 57	MERCEDES C180 KOMP AVANTGARDE SE CUBANITE 13000 MILES.....	£16995
07 07	C180 KOMP AVANTGARDE SE 4 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 13000 MILES.....	£15995
06 56	A CLASS 160 CLASSIC SE DIESEL AUTO PAS 5DR GOLD 2000 MILES.....	£11995
06 06	C180 KOMPRESSOR ELEGANCE AUTO PAS CUBANITE 11000 MILES.....	£14995
06 06	C180 KOMPRESSOR CLASSIC AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 28000 MILES.....	£12995
06 06	C180 KOMPRESSOR CLASSIC AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 18000 MILES.....	£13995
05 55	C180 KOMP ELEGANCE SE AUTO PAS SILVER LEATHER 19000 MILES.....	£13995
05 05	C180 KOMPRESSOR ELEGANCE SE AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES.....	£13995
04 54	A CLASS A140 SWB 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/CON ALLOYS 49000 MILES.....	£5995
03 53	VANEO 1-6 FAMILY ESTATE AUTO PAS RED AIR/C 29000 MILES.....	£5995

PEUGEOT

07 07	PEUGEOT 206 1-6 LOOK 5 DR AUTO PAS ONYX BLACK 2000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06	PEUGEOT 307 S AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE METALLIC 11000 MILES.....	£6995
06 55	PEUGEOT 307 S AUTO 5 DOOR PAS BLACK 24000 MILES.....	£5995
05 55	PEUGEOT 206 1-4 S 5 3R AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONSTUD 10000 MILES.....	£6495
05 05	206 SW ESTATE QUICKSILVER AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY MET 15000MILES.....	£5495
05 05	PEUGEOT 307 SE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C BRONZE 16000 MILES.....	£6995

MANUAL CARS

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

New Beemer attacks Merc SLK head on

NEXT month's arrival of an all-new BMW Z4 roadster will have prompted mixed feelings at Mercedes-Benz.

On the one hand, smugness that BMW has conceded that its roadster must now have a folding hardtop to match the pioneering Merc SLK.

And fear, that the SLK's arch-rival has now wiped away a feature that gave an edge in a market hit by recession.

Even worse, the Z4's new all-season, two-piece 20-second up or down roof, is just part of the story; it is also the

first BMW to get the marque's adaptive M suspension, with electronically controlled dampers offering three settings to suit driving mood and lower ride height by up to 10mm.

BMW insists that even the most taut Sport+ setting is equivalent to the previous Z4's standard ride, suggesting that the loosest option will be comfortable for a sports car.

Three six-cylinder petrol engines are offered, including BMW's acclaimed 3.0-litre twin-turbo unit, and prices will be confirmed shortly.



...while Audi rival gains recession-buster option

JUST to underline that neither Mercedes-Benz nor BMW has the upmarket roadster sector sewn up, Audi has launched a cut-price TT roadster.

The second generation TT is more than the fashion accessory that the original VW Golf-based car was, so the new turbocharged 1.8 TFSI soft top should be no 'hairstresser's car'.

It is also relatively affordable at £23,910 OTR – some £3,400 less than the 2.0 TFSI Roadster (£27,355 OTR) that used to prop up the range.

The new junior TT soft top has an all-new 158bhp 1.8-litre petrol engine with six-speed gearbox driving the front wheels.

This powertrain delivers 0-62mph in 7.4 seconds, a 139mph maximum and a respectable average of around 40mpg and 159g/km of CO₂, helped by a lightweight 58 per cent aluminium body.

There are also no catches on specification –



quoted price includes 17-inch alloys, powered hood and wind deflector, sports seats – albeit in cloth – electronic climate control and powered windows and mirrors.

Skoda Scouts out more sales

SKODA has carved a nice little niche by creating rugged Scout versions of key models. And those needing a supermini workhorse may be tempted by the new Fabia Scout, arriving in late May and based on the roomy estate body. Unlike the bigger Octavia Scout it is not four-wheel drive, but does have a durable front bumper and cladding for extra protection, while roof-rails boost load-lugging potential. Two petrol and two diesel engines are offered – prices to be confirmed.



LITTLE WHITE LIE

APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEPTIVE. THE FIAT 500 IS AVAILABLE FROM JUST £8,300.

Two more pleasant surprises. The table below tells you how easy it is to buy a Fiat 500 1.2 Pop, and if the car hasn't already done it, the fuel consumption and CO₂ emission figures should put a smile on your face. Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat 500 1.2 Pop mpg (l/100km): Urban 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3), and Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO₂ emissions of 119g/km.

Fiat 500 1.2 Pop	36 Monthly payments	£129.00
On the road	£8,300	Optional final payment (inc £240 fee) £4,211.82
Deposit	£830	Total amount payable £9,685.82
Balance financed	£7,470	TYPICAL 7.9% APR



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With Fiat i-deal you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (10,000 in this example) and being in good condition. Excess mileage charges of 9p per mile may apply. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Service, PO Box 108, Leeds LS27 0WU. Retail customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms & Conditions apply. Offer ends 30th June 2009. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time.

fiat.co.uk

by

STEVELOADER

LAND Rover knows all about the expression ‘moving the goalposts’.

Probably the world’s best known off-road brand, along with Jeep, LR prospered before the double eco-crunch – economic and ecological – that clobbered the world in 2008.

Suddenly, it was shooting at a goalmouth that had shifted sideways quickly.

The company had grown fast in the good times from a two-model specialist, offering the utilitarian/military Defender and luxury Range Rover, to an upmarket brand selling five distinct models.

Flaky quality that once undermined its rugged products had also been hunted down under Ford ownership before the recent sale to India’s TATA.

But a diversity of models and more customer satisfaction cannot disguise the fact this classic brand has been forced into transformation; big 4x4s have become the pariahs of the car market, even in the US, where LR had enjoyed a successful reintroduction.

For the moment, the company has become an industry leader in carbon offsetting to address climate change/global warming and is also making the most of unveiling flagship models for 2010: there is a revised Range Rover Sport and a new Discovery 4 line-up due in September, while the latest version of the prestigious Range Rover arrives in July.

But the long term future rests with a £400 million project to build a car based on the LRX Concept, a low slung ‘mini Land Rover’ that makes even its current baby, the Freelander, look large.

The company bills it as the “smallest, lightest and most efficient it has ever produced” and, tellingly, has managed to secure a modest £27million development

Land Rover responds to moving car market



BIG IDEA: Land Rover’s future rests with a £400 million project to bring a version of the LRX Concept car onto the market

grant from a Government normally ambivalent about the car industry’s contribution to the economy.

The design brief for this model is “Range Rover levels of quality, drivability and breadth of performance in a more

compact, more sustainable, package” and there has even been talk of a hybrid powertrain.

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Managers Specials		WAS	NOW
07 56	Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 5dr Tonic CD aircon leather heated screen alloys electrics fogs airbags	£7,999	£7,499
Demonstrators			
08 08	Ford Direct New Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr avalon PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover		£10,299
08 57	C-Max 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr Tango titanium X pack full leather panoramic roof alloys fogs c/locking airbags cruise		£12,999
08 08	Ford Direct S-Max 2.0 TDCi Titanium Silver 10spoke alloys full leather cruise alloys fogs ABS brakes fogs		£16,999
S-Max			
08 08	S-Max 2.0TDCi Zetec silver climate CD electrics fogs PAS ABS brakes alloys 7seats		£13,499
07 07	S-Max 2.0 TDCi Titanium silver DVD Sat Nav climate CD cruise electrics PAS ABS brakes alloys xenons airbags		£14,999
08 08	Ford Direct S-Max 2.2 TDCi Titanium silver DVD Sat Nav climate CD cruise alloys airbags 2yrs warr and AA cover		£17,999
Ka			
03 03	Ka 1.3 Luxury 3dr Silver 5spd PAS leather trim alloys c/locking heated screen electrics aircon		£4,499
05 55	Ka 1.3 Collection 3dr tonic blue 5spd aircon c/locking cd player electrics		£4,999
05 05	Sportka 1.6 3dr silver 5spd PAS electrics fogs c/locking alloys ABS brakes		£4,999
03 03	Streetka 1.6 Luxury red convertible aircon electrics CD c/locking airbags		£5,499
08 08	Ka 1.3 Style 3dr silver 5spd body colour bumpers CD ABS brakes c/locking airbags		£5,699
Fiesta			
06 06	Fiesta 1.25 Style 5dr colorado red CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking		£5,299
06 06	Fiesta 1.25 Style 3dr amethyst CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking		£5,999
06 06	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr silver aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys		£6,299
06 06	Fiesta 1.25 Style Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking heated screen		£6,499
06 56	Fiesta 1.4 Freedom 5dr silver PAS CD ABS brakes alloys airbags c/locking		£6,499
06 56	Fiesta 1.25 Style Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking heated screen		£6,499
07 57	Fiesta 1.25 Style 5dr silver CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking		£6,799
07 07	Fiesta 1.25 Silver 3dr tonic blue CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking alloys		£6,799
07 57	Fiesta 1.4 Style 5dr amethyst CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking		£6,799
06 06	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr blue aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys		£6,799

06	55	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr tango aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£6,999
06	06	Fiesta 1.6 TDCi Ghia 5dr jeans blue leather PAS CD ABS brakes fogs electrics aircon c/locking	£6,999
07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Style 5dr tonic CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking	£6,999
07	57	Fiesta 1.25 Silver 3dr tonic blue aircon CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking alloys	£6,999
06	06	Fiesta 1.4TDCi Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon alloys ABS brakes fogs electrics c/locking	£6,999
07	07	Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Clim 3dr amethyst aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£6,999
06	55	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S 3dr black CD aircon airbags r/c/locking PAS ABS electrics fogs alloys	£6,999
07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£7,499
07	57	Fiesta 1.4TDCi Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon alloys ABS brakes fogs electrics c/locking	£7,499
08	08	Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Clim 3dr ocean blue aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£7,799
08	08	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£7,799
07	07	Fiesta 1.4TDCi Zetec Clim 5dr black aircon alloys ABS brakes fogs electrics c/locking tech pack	£7,799
07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Blue 3dr ocean blue sony CD PAS aircon priv glass alloys electrics c/locking airbags	£7,999
07	07	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S 3dr black CD aircon airbags r/c/locking PAS ABS electrics fogs alloys	£7,999
08	58	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr amethyst aircon CD PAS abs brakes fogs electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£8,299
08	08	Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 5dr ocean blue aircon CD leather heated screen PAS c/locking ABS brakes	£8,499
08	08	Ford Direct Fiesta 1.4TDCi Zetec Clim 3dr black aircon ESP b/tooth park sensors 2yrs warr and AA cover	£8,999
08	08	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S 3dr Silver CD aircon heated screen full leather c/locking PAS ABS electrics fogs	£8,999
08	08	Fiesta 1.6TDCi Zetec-S 3dr black CD aircon airbags r/c/locking PAS ABS electrics fogs alloys	£8,999
08	08	Ford Direct Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec Clim 5dr apple green/aircon ESP b/tooth park sensors 2yrs warr and AA cover	£8,999
08	08	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S 3dr silver aircon CD leather heated screen PAS c/locking ABS brakes	£8,999
08	08	Fiesta ST150 3dr white aircon alloys fogs airbags 1/2 leather electrics ABS brakes c/locking	£9,699
08	08	Fiesta 1.6TDCi Zetec-S 3dr black CD aircon airbags r/c/locking PAS ABS electrics fogs alloys	£9,699
Fusion			
06	06	Fusion 1.4 Style Clim Durashift grey aircon cd heated screen c/locking PAS ABS brakes	£6,999
06	56	Fusion 1.4TDCi Plus blue aircon CD electrics airbags PAS ABS brakes	£6,999
06	56	Fusion 1.4 Style Clim blue aircon cd heated screen c/locking PAS ABS brakes	£7,299
08	08	Fusion 1.6 Zetec Clim black aircon CD heated screen alloys PAS ABS brakes	£7,999

Focus			
05 55	Focus 1.6 Sport 3dr blue aircon PAS Cd player alloys c/locking electric windows ABS brakes		£5,999
05 55	Focus 1.6 Zetec Clim 3dr blue aircon PAS CD alloys electrics fogs c/locking ABS brakes		£6,999
06 56	Focus 1.6 Zetec Clim 115 5dr blue aircon PAS CD alloys electrics fogs c/locking ABS brakes		£7,499
07 57	Focus 1.8 Style 5dr blue aircon PAS CD electrics ABS brakes c/locking		£7,999
08 08	New Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr silver PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs remote c/locking CD		£9,999
08 08	New Focus 1.6 Style Estate silver PAS aircon electrics remote c/locking ABS brakes		£10,299
08 08	Ford Direct New Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover choice of colours		£10,499
08 08	Ford Direct New Focus 1.8TDCi Zetec 5dr PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover choice of colours		£10,999
08 58	Ford Direct New Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr black PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover		£10,999
08 58	Ford Direct New Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr tango PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover		£10,999
08 08	Ford Direct New Focus 1.6TDCi Zetec 5dr avalon PAS aircon alloys electrics fogs c/locking 2yrs warr and AA cover		£10,999
08 08	Ford Direct New Focus 1.8TDCi Econetic 5dr black PAS aircon b/tooth fogs park assist 2yrs warr and AA cover		£11,499
08 08	New Focus 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr avalon PAS aircon alloys c/locking cd ABS brakes fogs		£11,999
Mondeo			
08 08	New Mondeo 2.0 Edge 5dr black aircon ABS brakes airbags cruise electrics c/locking CD		£11,699
08 57	New Mondeo 2.0TDCi Zetec 5dr silver climate alloys PAS airbags electrics fogs CD cruise control		£12,499
08 08	New Mondeo 2.0TDCi Titanium X 5dr silver climate b/tooth sport pack park sensors privacy glass CD airbags		£12,999
08 08	New Mondeo 2.0TDCi Zetec Auto 5dr silver climate alloys PAS airbags electrics fogs CD cruise control		£13,499
07 57	New Mondeo 2.0 Titanium X Estate climate sport pack 1/2 leather alloys ABS brakes airbags CD privacy glass		£14,699
07 57	New Mondeo 1.8TDCi Titanium X 5dr climate DVD Sat Nav b/tooth sport pack privacy glass CD airbags		£14,999
08 08	New Mondeo 2.0TDCi Titanium Auto Estate climate sport pack alloys ABS brakes airbags CD privacy glass		£15,999
C-Max			
06 55	C-Max 1.6 Zetec 5dr grey aircon PAS ABS brakes electrics alloys fogs CD c/locking		£7,299
Galaxy			
08 08	Galaxy 2.0 TDCi Ghia black cruise climate electrics alloys fogs airbags heated screen c/locking		£14,999
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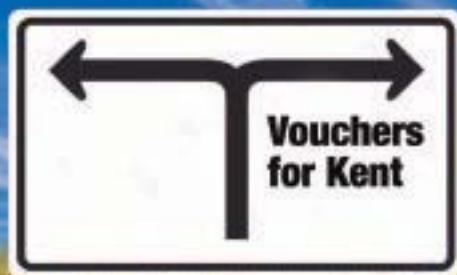
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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range shown are: Urban 37.2–54.3 (7.6–5.2), Extra Urban 57.6–70.6 (4.9–4.0), Combined 47.9–64.2 (5.9–4.4). The official CO2 emission figures range from 117–139g/km. Price includes delivery to dealer, number plates, 15% VAT, 12 months' Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Finance is subject to status. A guarantor may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) to apply for finance. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, P.O. Box 493, Watford WD17 1FJ. All offers subject to change/withdrawal without notice. All figures correct at time of going to press. Subject to availability.

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DrivingReview

by
STEVELOADERCHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Fiat 500

FIAT is the motor industry's 'come-back kid'.

Just a few years on from hanging on the ropes, the Italian marque looks fitter than most and could team up with punch-drunk Chrysler – both firms are under pressure to cement an alliance by the end of this month.

Smaller cars rolling off Chrysler's US production lines would be a triumph for good sense and the environment over the wasteful American car culture.

Reborn

And Fiat's best punch of its reborn career mixes old and new – the latest of a line of Fiat 500s or Cinquecentos and based on the classic 1957 'Nuovo'.

This new 500 has stormed the market, revitalised dealers and picked up European Car of the Year in 2007, a cult car to challenge and undercut even BMW's hugely successful re-work of another past icon, the Mini.

And while the 500 can be individualised like the Mini, Fiat has another trump card –

EcoDrive the greener dream with a Fiat 500



FIGHTING FIAT: The new Fiat 500 – based on the classic 1957 'Nuovo' – the little car that has been a big hit for the resurgent Italian marque

EcoDrive software that enables owners to drive leaner, meaner and greener.

It dovetails with 'Blue & Me', Fiat's hands-free in-car phone and audio system, which has a convenient USB port for iPods and other MP3 players – EcoDrive's way into

monitoring the driver's eco progress.

We've driven a few 500s now, including the impressive yet affordable Abarth hot hatch version, but the 1.2-litre Pop entry model and EcoDrive had eluded us until this point.

Unfortunately, I failed to realise until half

way through the test week that EcoDrive needs five days' worth of data before dispensing advice on how to trim fuel bills and help save the planet.

On the other hand, it is not rocket science. Checking through my daily results I was into

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RETRO: Fiat is capitalising further on the Cinquecento phenomenon with this retro rolltop convertible 500C version of the stylish city car

500, although the modest £8,300 start price can be blown away by tempting options.

Our car had black and chrome alloys (from £300) and you also need to upgrade to Lounge spec (from £9,700) to get a split/folding rear seat; a real necessity when a smaller car's boot might require you to flop down one seat to accommodate extra shopping or an awkward item, without losing the other rear passenger space, though I suspect most 500s are used as two-seat shopping trolleys.

Still, at least Lounge spec brings air con and alloys as standard and a fair bit more.

The 500 interior is a pleasing mix of retro with modern materials of higher quality. Some might scratch easily, but everything you touch feels tough, including the now trademark 'billiard ball' gear knob.

Inheriting the Fiat Panda running gear and chassis is not all good news; the ride can



the mid-70s out of a 100 on decent runs of 20 miles or more, without really trying to modify my usual driving style – 80 is considered good.

However, my overall reading was just 52, with economy clobbered by local shuttles, school runs, shopping trips and so on.

This is when the engine barely warms up, there is less cruising and more gear changing and, possibly, more hurrying – I think we all allow extra time pro rata when travelling further.

And even if we already know how to drive

greener, I can see how Fiat owners – the feature is being rolled out across the range – might get hooked on pleasing EcoDrive, with consequent savings and a greener conscience.

You can, for instance, set an 'EcoDriving Challenge' – a green target to beat and then go again. Every Fiat owner's results can also be entered and totalled into the findings of Fiat's online EcoVille.

Even if you think EcoDrive is too much phaffing about, the 1.2 model should average well over 50mpg and is probably the best buy

DrivingStats

• Fiat 500 1.2 Pop £8,300

Range: £test car-13,600

Garage stats: 3.54m by 1.68m three-door hatchback

Powertrain: 1,242cc/69bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox

Performance: top speed 99mph and 0-62mph in 12.9 seconds

How green?: road tax band-B (£35/yr) and 119g/km CO2 emissions

Official fuel figures: combined 55.4mpg

Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): ****

Fuel tank: 35 litres/7.7 gallons

Insurance group: 2

Warranty: three years/60,000 miles

Website: www.fiat.co.uk

Rivals: Chevrolet Matiz, Citroen C1 or C2, Fiat Panda, Ford Ka, Hyundai i10, Kia Picanto, Mitsubishi i-Car, Nissan Pixo (due soon), Perodua Kelisa, Peugeot 107, Renault Twingo, Suzuki Alto, Toyota Aygo and VW Fox.

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feel unsettled though the lighter weight of the 1.2 against the 1.4-litre petrol and 1.3-litre diesel, makes it feel more refined and more nimble, while still able to cruise the motorway comfortably.

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Chevrolet range fuel consumption in mpg (L/100 km), urban 40.9 (6.9) to 26.4 (10.7), extra urban 67.3 (4.2) to 38.7 (7.3), combined 54.3 (5.2) to 32.8 (8.6) the official co2 emission is 119 to 225 g/km.

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 LS 5dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions 132g/km. Lacetti 1.6 SX 5dr: Urban - 30.7 (9.2), Extra-urban - 47.8 (5.9), Combined - 39.7 (7.1). CO₂ emissions 170g/km. Matiz 1.0 SE 5dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 60.1 (4.7), Combined - 50.4 (5.6). CO₂ emissions 137g/km.

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L200, ANIMAL DOUBLE CAB 2.5 DI-D Automatic, wm56ftz, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, central locking, electric sunroof, computer, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, power assisted steering, remote locking, black, 12500 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr, gk08ycg, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, 3yrs / 37500 mile free servicing with this car, saving, silver, 9000 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 ELEGANCE 4dr Auto, gf57yll, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:9, grey, 12000 miles, £7395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 EQUIPPE 5dr Auto, abs, air con, alloys, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, pas, insurance group:9, black, 15000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr abs, alloy wheels, cc, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest,immobiliser, passenger airbag, pas, remote locking, side airbags, traction control, Insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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207, 1.4 URBAN 3dr, gk57vxn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, insurance group:3, blue, 4587 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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Generic pulls Trigger

A NEW force in motorcycles has arrived in mid-Kent, with the youthful Generic brand being adopted by Maidstone Bikes, operating within the county town's Whitehouse car dealership.

Generic started in Austria in 2004, majoring on scooters with well-made sporty designs at affordable prices made possible by production in the Far East. It is well on course to its stated aim of leading the scooter sector and being one of the world's largest bike manufacturers.

Having built the business on sharp-suited 50-150cc scooters like the XOR, Zion and Soho, Generic has also caught the eye with its Trigger range of small bike models like the sporty yet economical Trigger SM 125.

By **STEVE LOADER**

BETTER weather and the new '09 plate have boosted interest in motorbikes after recession gloom hit the UK hard in January/February.

Industry sources say they were relatively happy with 10 per cent less or 1,870 fewer UK registrations of motorcycles, scooters and mopeds last month against March '08.

This compared with a 25 per cent downturn in February.

The market recovery was largely due to 'naked' or unstreamlined retro-look bikes and consumers opting for more economical and fuel efficient machines – echoing the car market.

The Motorcycle Industry Association

Bike sales regain some lost ground

(MCIA) is urging Chancellor Alistair Darling to use next week's Budget speech to announce a road tax holiday on all new PTWs (powered two-wheelers) in recognition of their congestion-busting power.

The MCIA claims this would cost the country just £15 million a year in lost taxation, but protect some 15,000 UK jobs and a £3 billion turnover, including that of homegrown pro-

ducers like Triumph as well as the UK arms of importers and their dealer networks.

All of this would be in addition to the potential reduction in CO2 emissions and road congestion offered by encouragement of greater PTW use.

There are more than 1.6 million motorcycles used in Britain (DfT 2006), travelling around 3.5 billion miles (DfT 2007).

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Dealers get twin Yamaha launch

YAMAHA'S new WR125X and XJ6 Diversion have hit dealers' showrooms.

The XJ6 Diversion revives a mid-range name and proposition popular a few years ago: fun riding and economy with style that includes a half fairing.

This new all-rounder comes with a four-cylinder four-stroke motor with mid-range punch, plus a low seat height and smooth handling. Prices are £4,949 or £5,249 with ABS.

The other Yamaha newcomer, the WR125X Supersport (pictured and priced from £3,199) features the same motor as the award winning YZF-R125 and is tailored to an urban lifestyle, combining dirt bike excitement with sports bike tyres for serious traction and tight turns.

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Taxing times with HMCR's new powers

BUSINESS owners should be on the alert that a beefed-up HM Revenue and Customs now has the power to search their work premises, warns Kent accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill, **writes Richard Coleman.**

**Sue Hidson**

The start of the new tax year saw the Finance Act 2008 come into force, giving HMRC powers to inspect premises and records relevant to all direct taxes, not just PAYE and VAT as previously. Inspections can take place with a week's notice, although in special cases no notice is required. Officers are also able to ask taxpayers and third parties for more information and documents.

Sue Hidson, tax manager at HCW's Maidstone office, said: "The power to inspect premises is now HMRC's to use and it seems inconceivable they will not make use of it."

"This is a significant development. Businesses that have traditionally sailed close to the wind could be in for a nasty surprise."

The new legislation is designed to make the tax system simpler and more consistent. While HMRC does not have the power to force entry, if the visit is approved by the first-tier tribunal, business owners risk a fine of £300 plus a further £60 per day for refusing admittance.

"If you are contacted for an inspection, seek professional advice immediately," said Ms Hidson.

"Also business owners who are regularly away should put a clear procedure in place for dealing with this. Otherwise those left in charge may unwittingly agree to an inspection at no notice and without their tax advisor present."

Learning curve helps overcome the downturn

TWO Kent universities have clinched part of a £3.5 million Government funding programme aimed at giving immediate help to individuals and businesses during the downturn.

Canterbury Christ Church University and the University for the Creative Arts, which has sites at Maidstone, Rochester and Canterbury, are among eight South East universities and colleges which received the money from a national £27m pot.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) announced this week they were all successful in bidding for the money – which is match funding and has to be equalled by the bidders – for a variety of projects.

Canterbury Christ Church University got £311,564 which allows it to team up with the University of Kent, University of Greenwich, and also University for the Creative Arts, for the Kent and Medway Universities Business and Enterprise (Kube) project linking businesses with graduates.

It provides immediate graduate-level expertise through in-company placement projects. Sixty placements will be offered, along with a careers fair, online business portals, a graduate consultancy and register and skills training for graduates.

The University for the Creative Arts got £443,208, along with the University of Winchester, to focus on digital media and design disciplines. Support will be given to individuals and business to support start-up and growth, developing skills in creative technologies, and activities to support knowledge exchange.

Higher education minister David Lammy said:

By **TONY PATEY**

tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

"Universities in the South East have demonstrated they are central to the fiscal stimulus local communities, businesses, families and young people need."

"Universities are clearly showing they can provide a lifeline by offering targeted short courses to adults who have lost their jobs, by connecting small businesses to graduates and university expertise, and by offering graduates the skills and opportunities to set up their own business."

"It is particularly encouraging to see that internships and work placements with universities and businesses have been approved, which will be an important part of government proposals to increase the numbers available to students graduating this summer."

When announcing the successful bidders, Sir Alan Langlands, HEFCE's chief executive, said: "This shows higher education can respond swiftly to the needs of local communities."

"We set universities and colleges a tough task, giving them just four weeks to develop and submit their proposals, but they responded with enthusiasm and imagination, with 120 bids in total to the Economic Challenge Investment Fund."

"New opportunities and courses will be on offer almost immediately, building up to a very full and busy programme over the summer and into next year."

Preparing people for the professional skills that will be in demand in the future and supporting development in potential economic growth sectors, such as low-carbon technologies, were key features of a number of the bids.

Theatre exec takes top job for the Qdos

BROMLEY'S Churchill Theatre chief executive Derek Nicholls has landed a top job in the nation's theatre industry – with the largest pantomime producer.

He is going to spearhead the expanding regional theatre portfolio of Qdos Entertainment, the UK's third largest regional theatre operator, which also runs the Orchard Theatre at Dartford. Qdos is widely expected to bid for the management contract at the Churchill when it comes up for tender this summer.

However, Qdos chairman Nick Thomas told The Stage newspaper that Mr Nicholls' appointment and any plans for bidding for the Churchill were not linked.

Mr Nicholls has been president of the Theatrical Management Association since 2004. He was at Bromley for six years, after being director of Belfast Opera House for nine.

He is closely connected with Ambassador Theatre Group, the nation's second largest regional theatre operator after Live Nation.

Qdos operates seven regional venues, and another, Watford Coliseum, is due to join the stable in the summer.

Mr Nicholls told The Stage: "The theatres division is relatively young, and to have a hand in developing the style, ethos and business success of a group of theatres is a very enticing challenge."

"The Churchill has become an important part of the industry. I leave with a sense of gratitude, but also a sense of excitement about the future."

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Flying start to 2012 Olympics campaign

By **TONY PATEY**

tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S tourism, leisure and hospitality experts were quick out of the blocks with a new campaign to promote the county in the run-up to 2012 Olympic Games in London.

The Celebrating Kent campaign brings together a growing range of initiatives launched by Visit Kent, the county's official tourist board, to promote customer service and raise standards.

Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent at Kent County Council, said: "We are preparing to showcase our county to the world during 2012 and beyond."

"We're celebrating the success of our many businesses, attractions and destinations that entertain more than 45 million visitors and residents each year. And we're building on their tremendous achievements."

Plans already in the pipeline include expanding the volunteer greeters programme started in Thanet last year across the whole county, and widening the scope of the annual Kent Big Day Out to bring in more attractions and leisure opportunities.

The campaign, part of KCC's Backing Kent Business programme, is also encouraging more businesses and companies to take advantage of Visit Kent's customer service training and free standards and business advice.

Visit Kent is also working with local businesses to develop new projects and events to raise awareness of the importance of tourism to the county's economy.

Meantime, the county's famous sites, such as Canterbury Cathedral, are being urged to



LAUNCH TIME: From left, Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive of Visit Kent; Frazer Thompson, chairman of Kent IoD; Alistair McKean, Paralympic rowing bronze medallist; John Williams of Tourism South East; Amanda Cottrell, chairwoman of Visit Kent; John Warnett of BBC Radio Kent; Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent at KCC; and Sue Smith of the Learning and Skills Council

see themselves as 'products' which can be 'exported' to draw in income.

Chris Lowsley, an international trade advisor with the Government's UK Trade and Investment South East body, said Canterbury Cathedral – centre of the Anglican world, the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and part of a Unesco World Heritage Site and a world-class tourist attraction – is clearly an export business.

"It's not the normal way you think of exporting, but it actually makes sense," he said. "The South East has a wealth of famous, historic sites – Canterbury Cathedral, Hever Castle, Leeds Castle, to name but a few – and they function like small companies in that they want to attract, retain and generate income from foreign sources, yet they might not think of themselves in terms of a product that they could export."

"They may struggle to target international

markets and not focus on where their customers are coming from overseas."

He recently gave a presentation for Visit Kent and spoke about UKTI's Passport to Export, a 12 to 18-month flexible programme designed to help new and inexperienced exporters understand and target international customers.

Staff at Canterbury Cathedral have already taken advantage of it. As well as development of an export action plan, the programme provides subsidised training, up to £1,500 of matched funding to implement export plans, and an experienced advisor to offer guidance.

For more details about UKTI, click on www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Creative reaction to the downturn

MARKETING and creative agencies in Kent are taking radical steps to beat the recession.

Rivals in good economic times are apparently banding together to fight the bad.

"They are increasingly adopting alternative practices to beat the recession and maintain growth," said Lisa Casson, boss of Remedy Creative, based in Tunbridge Wells.

In the last six months she has seen a growing number of advertising, marketing, PR, design and media firms collaborating to win pitches and work on projects jointly.

"The economic climate is encouraging some regional agencies to explore new ways of working together to foster creativity and broaden skill sets, which is great news for businesses and brands," she said.

"I have never seen so many companies working in partnership for mutual benefit."

"Rather than recruit permanent staff or expand, agencies are seeking out complementary businesses to partner them on projects to make use of specialist experience and create new opportunities."

"It's a practice Remedy has increasingly adopted. We have worked in partnership with four other Kent agencies on a range of projects."

Cheaper farmland

ENGLISH farmland values fell by 2.6 per cent in the first three months of 2009, the third quarterly fall in a row, according to property firm Knight Frank.

Its farmland index shows that the average price of farmland is now £4,673 per acre, just over one per cent higher than it was 12 months ago.

Figures for Kent alone are unavailable. Andrew Shirley, head of rural land research, said: "The fact that farmland has not fallen so much, despite commodity prices halving and lifestyle and investor buyers stepping back, says much about its strength."

"A lot of this derives from limited availability for sale. Prices may weaken marginally next quarter, but investors, farmers and residential buyers will return to the market by the end of the year and this should ensure values level off again."

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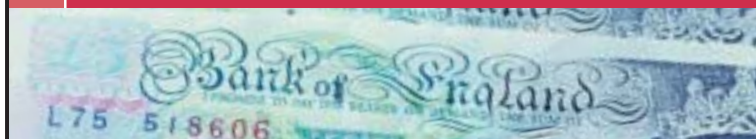
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talkingbusiness

A warmer summer welcome beckons



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

With summer holidays looming on the horizon, tourism and leisure will be on many people's minds. For Kent, it's not just about rejoicing in the name of the Garden of England – tourism is a serious £2.5 billion a year business, with 50,000 employees.

Some business people have said in the past the county was not promoting itself fully, especially to Londoners and potential tourists across the Channel. But those days are gone.

Visit Kent, our lively and well-run official tourist board, has set out its stall and has been running top-notch initiatives, the latest being reported on page 72 of today's business section. Kent, of course, is part of the South East, and there is a regional board which covers the county, plus Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Sussex and Surrey. The new chairman of Tourism South East is **John Williams**. On his second day in the job he was at the Kent 2020 Vision 09 business exhibition. KOS Media business editor Tony Patey spoke to him.



TOURISM BOSS: John Williams

Q What is your background?

A I have worked in marketing – advertising and public relations – so I really recognise the importance of this in promotion. What has already struck me is how innovative and imaginative tourism and business is in Kent.

There has been a recognition of the importance of the growth of online bookings, with much more sophisticated and interactive websites and also a recognition that everyone is looking for opportunities in these difficult economic times.

With current exchange rates, people are going to holiday closer to home, so there is a real opportunity for people in the rest of the UK and the near Continent to rediscover Kent.

Q What will be your main business thrust for next year and over five years?

A In the short term, tourism businesses need help and advice as to how they are going to see their way through the recession and we are stepping up our advice and training services, not just in Kent but across the whole of the South East. We're also providing new marketing opportunities.

The South East England Development Agency (Seeda) gave some money at the end of last year to mount a campaign to fight the recession and help local businesses. That's bringing people in and working very well. But we've got our eyes on the long term as well – and that is the 2012 Olympics.

It is a fixed point and something we've got to prepare for now and something which offers huge opportunities for Kent, for general and cultural tourism and sports. The world's eyes will be on Kent, and we're going to be working very closely with Visit Kent to make sure that Kent is a crucial gateway to 2012 and makes the most of the opportunities.

Q What should Kent tourist-related companies looking towards 2012 be doing?

A Talk to Visit Kent, talk to Tourism South East, especially about training. It's not just about being good at marketing. A lot of advice can be found on our

'Tourist expectations are constantly on the rise and we need to step it up'

websites about courses we're offering to make sure they invest in good quality service. Training will be absolutely vital. Inevitably, not everybody's welcome is as high a standard as it should be. I think you need to keep polishing up your service.

Consumer expectations and tourist expectations are constantly on the rise and what was a perfect welcome five years ago is now the norm, so we need to step it up.

Value added is the thing; a combination of service, good quality and marketing and knowing your customers. Be aware of their different needs – some are families, some are tired parents wanting to get away from family life – so you've got to understand your customers and be responsive to them.

However, I sense great energy, great commitment and great pride in what the county has to offer. It's the extraordinary breadth of what Kent has to offer, and we're encouraging every tourism business, in partnership with Kent County Council, to really drive that perception forward.

Q Do you have a favourite Kent destination?

A I'm looking forward to seeing everything I can. Again, it's the breadth of what's on offer; the lovely villages, the gardens, the hidden nooks and crannies. It isn't just about destinations such as Canterbury or Chatham, it's about discovering Kent and enjoying your time here.

Q What are your personal interests?

A Just trying to see new places. The challenge of tourism is constantly to surprise and delight your guests and I have to say I have been not surprised but certainly delighted by my welcome in Kent.



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KENT-based, B&P Finance Consultants, a specialist commercial finance broker has been named Commercial Mortgage Broker of the Year at the Business Moneyfacts awards.

The company is unique in that it consists entirely of former Barclays corporate managers, with the six partners all having gained their knowledge and experience through a total of more than 140 years working at the bank.

It was formed in 2000 by Neil Pointin and operates across Kent and the South East, with managers based in Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Brenchley and Billericay.

Mr Pointin also sits on the main board of the National Association of Commercial Finance Brokers.

He said: "We run our own business so we know the issues from the client's point of view, but we are also former bank managers, so we can assess a deal through 'bank manager's eyes'."

Jason Small, local business area manager for Barclays in Kent was also at the awards, where Barclays received Best Commercial Mortgage Provider and an Award for Innovation in the SME Finance Sector for its Let's Talk Seminar programme.

Mr Small said: "We work with Mr Pointin and his colleagues regularly and it is great to see them being recognised in this way alongside multinational organisations."



BEST BROKER: Broadcaster Sandi Toksvig is pictured with Neil Pointin and Lee Tillcock, from Business Moneyfacts, at the awards



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Award Winning Company

Movers & Shakers

KINGS Hill-based Kaslers Solicitors has recruited Helen Knowles to its conveyancing department.

Michael Breeze, senior partner, said: "We are very glad to have been able to employ Helen, a very experienced conveyancer."

"Not least because we still seem to be receiving new property instructions at a gratifying rate, despite what I read about the general market downturn."

Cheshire-born Helen, who moved to Kent in 1981, is a Fellow of the Institute of Paralegals as well as being a member of the Institute of Legal Executives.

Throughout a lengthy legal career she has worked in law firms in Maidstone and Thanet.

BEING a boss at the top at the moment can be lonely – but there's an ACE way to cope with the isolation.

There's an Academy for Chief Executives providing a regular forum for them to meet and share problems and ideas.

ACE chairman in Kent, Jo Gideon, said: "It's said a problem shared is a problem solved. But it's also said that it's lonely at the top."

"In other words, there aren't many people a company boss can turn to when a problem needs to be talked through or ideas to be bounced around."

"After all, few bosses want to air their insecurities to employees and indeed, few employees will give an honest answer if it means telling the boss they are wrong."

"ACE aims to circumnavigate that problem by bringing together chief executive officers and managing directors on a regular basis to tackle the big issues faced on a day-to-day basis."

There are more than 40 groups across the UK, with new groups starting up all the time in the USA, India and across Europe – looking after around 12-15 members per group, from all age groups and sectors.



Meetings are scheduled once a month, with group discussion in the morning and an expert speaker in the afternoon.

The first Academy Entrepreneurs' Board – a half-day option – launched in east Kent recently.

CHARING-based Ardo UK, the frozen fruit and vegetable specialist, has appointed former youth worker Gareth Davies from Ashford as cost analyst.

The job is dramatically different from his last role, which was three years spent as a full-time youth worker for a church in Orpington, looking after the needs and concerns of teenagers in the community.

Prior to that he was a senior accounts assistant for Akzo Nobel Chemicals for nearly 14 years, holding a position very similar to his role at Ardo. He has been involved in youth work for some 35 years.

He said: "I got involved in youth work through the church and partly as a result of having sons myself. I've been involved in running youth clubs, both secular and for the church, organising community events for teenagers and mentoring."



TWO employees of Buckland Press, the Dover-based colour and commercial printer, have celebrated 25 years service with the firm. Both members of the binding department team, Greta Whitton and Gordon Haddon were presented with engraved watches in recognition of their long service and loyalty, watched by all of their colleagues.

Greta works as a bindery assistant, and Gordon as guillotine operator and deputy manager of the department.

They both have a wide range of skills in print finishing and have seen many technological developments in their industry over the years.

Managing director, Kevin Snoad, pictured centre, who presented the awards said: "Buckland Press is lucky to have so many long serving members of staff."

"Our staff continues to be our best asset and it is always a pleasure to reward such loyalty."

HYPHE-based Holiday Extras, a UK market leader in travel add-ons, has appointed Nilan Peiris as its new web and IT implementation director.

Nilan joins the firm from Accenture, where he was a senior manager, and will be responsible for developing Holiday Extras' IT and system development teams, working closely with director Matthew Pack.

Previously, Nilan worked with Oxfam, Sainsbury's, BT and Sony.

"The search for the perfect candidate to drive us forward was particularly difficult," says Mr Pack.

"But following an extensive interviewing process, we feel we have found the perfect solution in Nilan."



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MATRICES in this case is not a cult sci-fi action film – it's the branding given to the young division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

It was set up to create social networking and professional opportunities for young or unqualified surveyors.

The RICS Kent Matrics group was revitalised three years ago, recognising the needs of younger members, and has been growing ever since. It is always aiming to further expand on its successes and increase the pool of members and inter-professional connections.

The idea behind Kent Matrics is to look after the interests of new members entering the profession of surveying by pro-

Into the matrices for networking

viding a range of networking opportunities, support services including professional development events and advice, as well as a full range of social events throughout the year. The next event will be a new members' reception on Thursday,

May 14, at Davis Langdon's offices, 42 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill. During the evening there'll be a presentation on Northfleet Embankment, an 87-hectare mixed-use development near Gravesend, presented by the South East England Development Agency (Seeda).

Also, a selection of lighter entertainment will be provided by a Nintendo Wii competition and a huge Scalextric track. The reception starts at 6.30pm and is free.

Other events planned over coming months include clay pigeon shooting in June and pub golf in July.

Contact Richard Turnill at Cluttons on 01622 756000 or email richard.turnill@cluttons.com.

Pub closures provide retail opportunities

ESTABLISHED retail operators and even first-time buyers are being given the perfect opportunity to operate businesses in the hub of communities through the growing number of pub closures, according to property agent Christie + Co.

Local sites are coming under the most pressure in the pub sector, with a significant number being forced to close due to factors including the credit crunch and the smoking ban.

Interested parties are now constantly left with closed sites located at the centre of housing estates and communities – prime locations for small convenience outlets.

Such opportunities also have the advantage that under current legislation planning consent is often not required for change of use

from A4 (drinking establishment) to A1 (shops).

David Garrard, head of retail at Christie + Co's Maidstone office, said: "We have always seen a healthy interest from retailers regarding pubs designated for alternative use, but the increase in pub closures has led to further enquiries and opportunities.

"The locations of closed pubs make them perfect for convenience store operators, who will have a captive customer base on their doorstep from day one.

"The ease in which change of use can be gained without planning consent also increases the attractiveness of these former pubs."

He said that in Kent opportunities currently exist in Margate, Ramsgate and Whitstable.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk



■ HYTHE-based Smiths Medical International is moving its head office to the Herald Building at the Eureka Park, Ashford.

However, it is continuing to maintain links with Hythe by upgrading its Reachfields site, giving space to further research and development, and creating what it hopes will be a world-

class technical centre. "We have had a presence in Kent for more than 50 years and have put down firm roots," said managing director Martin Jamieson.

"This is a significant investment and a really positive step for the company, showing long-term commitment to the business and Kent."

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NORWICH UNION	£7.83	NORWICH UNION	£18.05	NORWICH UNION	£6.17	NORWICH UNION	£14.60
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AXA	£8.36	LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.20	LV=	£6.60	AEGON SCOT EQ	£14.92
SCOT PRVDNT	£8.49	ZURICH	£18.40	AEGON SCOT EQ	£7.07	ZURICH	£15.10
AEGON SCOT EQ	£8.55	BRIGHT GREY	£18.59	NORWICH UNION	£7.10	BRIGHT GREY	£15.16
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RT: Rate type R%: Rate percentage L: Loan U: Until
OD: Other details

FIXED

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OD: £1,339

FIRST ACTIVE RBS

RT: FIXED R%: 3.79% L: 75% U: 30/06/2011
OD: £1,029

WOOLWICH

RT: FIXED R%: 4.39% L: 70% U: 30/04/2012
OD: £1,325

MARSDEN

RT: FIXED R%: 3.54% L: 70% U: 30/04/2011
OD: £1,123

OTHER

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER

RT: TRACKER R%: 2.99% L: 75% U: 2 YEARS
OD: £2,310

ABBEY

RT: TRACKER R%: 3.39% L: 75% U: 3 YEARS
OD: £1,030

NATIONWIDE

RT: TRACKER R%: 3.38% L: 75% U: 3 YEARS
OD: £1,015

MARSDEN

RT: TRACKER R%: 3.25% L: 70% U: 30/04/2011
OD: £1,123

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NEW AND USED



Timeline

In the first of a weekly feature, Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear



1909 ONE hundred years ago, Kent County Cricket Club's prospects were talked up at the start of the new season, with the county reporting no financial worries and announcing festivals would be held at Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Canterbury and Dover.

Having turned out in numbers to witness Kent in previous seasons, the people of Gravesend were rewarded with two festivals and there was also action at Catford, but Maidstone missed out, despite mutterings that the county town was being ignored, because the newly-laid turf at The Mote was being "given time to settle." Any parallels here?

The Kent Amateur Cup final was ordered to be replayed after the Royal Navy fielded an unregistered player in their 3-0 win over the Royal Engineers at Folkestone. The authorities ordered a rematch at New Brompton FC, despite the fact that some of the players had already had their medals engraved.

Over 6,000 people attended the West Kent Hunt Point-to-Point meeting, held at St Clere in Kemsing.



1959 FIFTY years ago, rumours that England opener Peter Richardson was on his way to Kent were described as a "gross exaggeration" by the county, though the Worcestershire batsman, known as a prankster for sending false cricket records to EW Swanton at the Daily Telegraph, did soon join the club.

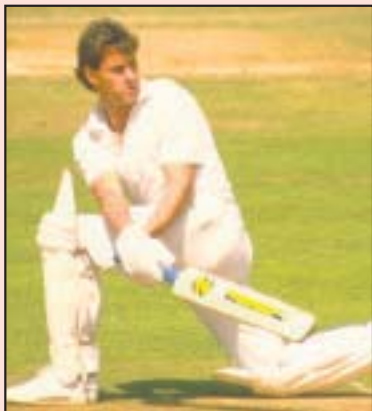
On the football field Kent Police hammered the Kent Fire Brigade 10-1 in the Henry Iles Shield, with Iles scoring six goals from the inside left position.



1984 TWENTY five years ago, Gillingham manager Keith Peacock was left to sweat on the fitness of ever-present John Leslie ahead of Good Friday's Division 3 derby with Southend, but was handed a boost when Steve Bruce was ruled fit, after having six stitches removed from a head injury sustained at Bradford.

Chris Cowdrey's appearance for the MCC prompted speculation the Kent all-rounder was in line for an England call. Sound familiar Mr Key? The county signed the Australian Terry Alderman as their overseas player, after learning that Eldine Baptise had been drafted into the West Indies squad. Mark Benson was ruled out until June with a knee injury.

Maidstone Rugby Club won the Kent Sevens at The Mote.



ENGLAND RECALL? Chris Cowdrey's MCC appearance bears resemblance to position Rob Key finds himself in today

Parrish praise for mighty Mos

Dramatic final win clinches title

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

INVICTA Dynamos head coach Kevin Parrish has praised his squad for breaking the monopoly of the northern clubs to become National League champions last weekend.

The Mos led 3-1 and 4-2 in the final but had to come through the nerve-racking ordeal of a penalty shootout to beat Sheffield Spartans.

It was a rare victory for a southern club in the game between the champions of the National League's two divisions, which are arranged geographically.

Parrish was delighted with the victory, which was the club's first against Sheffield in 11 games and helped avenge the defeat to the same side in the National League Cup final last month.

He said: "It's the big prize to win, you have to be consistent over 30-odd league games and then beat the best team from the north. The

game up north is much stronger than in our area. All the teams have great youth set-ups and places like Sheffield and Nottingham have two rinks in the same building, so the demand is much greater.

"To bring the title back south is a great achievement. The boys thoroughly deserved it. They showed a little bit of inexperience in the third period to let the lead slip, but they stood up well to win the shootout."

The season could yet end up with more silverware this afternoon as the Mos look to add the National League play-off title to their trophy cabinet. A win against Cardiff last month saw them through to the finals weekend, where they played Bracknell Hornets in the semi-finals yesterday.

A win would put them through to today's play-off final to face the winner of the other semi, between Sheffield Spartans and Nottingham Lions.

Parrish believes if his side can finish the season on a high it would rival the 'grand slam' won by the club three seasons ago.

He said: "It would go down in history as one



DELIGHT: Invicta Dynamos beat the best the North had to offer for their title victory

of the best seasons we have ever had, especially with the restructured league system, which has made it tougher this season.

"I think going in as national champions makes us favourites. We're used to the pressure, at Invicta the expectation is we have to win the league every year and pick up trophies, so it won't be a problem."

From Plumstead to Emirates

In the first of a new series, **FRED ATKINS** takes a look back at some of Kent's former sporting venues

WHEN Arsenal left Highbury in 2006, they left behind two magnificent reminders of their time in the Arsenal Stadium, the East and West stands, both listed buildings that government regulations prevented them from altering.

It was a very different story when they left their original base in Plumstead in 1913.

The Gunners were initially thought of as a Kent club – when they formed at the Royal Oak pub by Woolwich Arsenal station, as Dial Square in 1886, their home ground was still officially a part of the county and some of the Gunners' first successes came in the Kent Junior and Senior Cups.

Although their first game took place somewhere on the Isle of Dogs, Dial Square's first proper home venue was the Sportsman's Ground on Plumstead Marshes.

This, however, was actually the site of a pig farm. It quickly flooded and they were forced to move to Plumstead Common.

After a season there they switched to the Manor Ground and they played there, and for a brief time at the Invicta Ground, Woolwich Arsenal were widely despised.

John Spurling, the Kent-based author of *Rebels With A Cause* paints a vivid picture of petrified players making an arduous journey to the Kent marshes, where they would be kicked off the pitch by players and support-



OLD STOMPING GROUNDS: The Royal Arsenal building near Woolwich, and Plumstead Common (right), somewhat removed from the Emirates Stadium



ers alike, all against the backdrop of a smell of sewage.

In 1913 they decamped 12 miles to Highbury – by which time Plumstead had been swallowed up by London.

The move was bitterly opposed by both Tottenham and Orient and the club's existing fan base, who regarded the switch as an act of betrayal.

Today there is little sign that one of the world's biggest football clubs were ever there.

The Plumstead Marshes have all but disappeared, hoovered up by the sprawling Thamesmead development, though an

'Arsenal Way' now exists and is home (inevitably) to a luxury apartment complex. The same fate has befallen the Royal Arsenal munitions factory itself.

Plumstead Common is still there and though nobody can be precisely sure where Woolwich Arsenal played, the site is now home to Greenwich Rugby Club.

A few sections of terracing from the Invicta Ground can still be found in back gardens in Hector Street, but the Manor Ground, on the opposite side of the High Street, has disappeared without trace and even the original Royal Oak pub has now been bulldozed.

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European rallycross sets Lydden alight on return

By **TOM HOWARD**

LYDDEN Hill race circuit faces an anxious wait to see if hosting the opening round of the European Rallycross Championship will earn them a regular spot on the calendar.

The Dover circuit experienced its most successful day in its history with a record crowd of more than 20,000 flocking through the gates last weekend to witness the return of European Rallycross.

Since the Doran family took over the running of the venue in the autumn of 2007, a figure in the region of £1 million pounds has been pumped into the circuit, which could be seen as a gamble in a time of recession.

However, the investment appears to have paid off, as the circuit proved to be a hit with both competitors and visitors.

Gamble

Lydden director Anthony Watts explained that the FIA were happy with the running of the event, but the circuit will have to wait for an official report before discussions can begin as to whether Lydden will host the event next year.

He said: "It was a gamble to the extent that we only had three months to organise the event and it was the first one of the season."

"We will have to wait a few months before we receive any official information from the FIA as to how they scored the way we hosted



Picture: JONNY LOX



ON FIRE: A car catches fire and (left) Kent racer Pat Doran, who finished eighth overall

which is probably better than my local hospital.

"All the problems with the circuit have been put right thanks to the Doran family and I'd like to think the success they have had will further reward them by getting more European rounds in the future."

The racing failed to disappoint the bumper crowd with the world's fastest rally cars blitzing around the one-mile circuit.

The final was a closely fought encounter between Sverre Isachsen and Kenneth Hansen, but 14-time champion Hansen, from Sweden, pipped the Norwegian by a tenth of a second to win the opening round of the season.

British hopes were pinned on Pat Doran after his son Liam was forced into early retirement due to mechanical problems. Doran senior produced a strong performance to finish eighth overall in the standings.

Sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

the event. But from speaking to FIA representatives on Monday, they were very complimentary about the organisation of the event. Whilst we await official confirmation I have every confidence we will be hosting the event for many years to come."

This is a view echoed by the voice of motorsport – Murray Walker – who returned to race commentary at the event. He was shocked and delighted by the circuit's transformation since his first visit nearly 40 years ago.

He told Kent on Sunday: "The circuit hasn't changed since 1968 when I first came here. However, all the surroundings have changed beyond recognition. There was no tarmac, no buildings and now there is. There is even a fantastic medical centre,

Jen joy on England debut

JENNY Hall made a dream start to her senior international career as she scored the only goal for England against Ireland last weekend.

The 20-year-old, who plays club hockey for Canterbury, came off the substitutes' bench and marked her debut with the winner in Dublin on Good Friday. Latching on to a loose ball inside the Irish circle, the youngster did well to fire home from close range.

The performance saw Hall break into the starting line-up for the second game last Sunday, where England came from behind to win 3-1. Canterbury's Natalie Seymour, 22, started both games for a youthful national side.

Head coach Danny Kerry, who last month told Kent on Sunday Canterbury's promising youngsters would be given a chance to impress with the national side, was pleased but is not getting carried away with the back-to-back wins.

He said: "It has certainly been a useful training camp but there is an enormous amount of work to



HIGH FIVE: Jenny Hall scored the winner on her England bow

be done between now and the summer tournaments."

Both Hall and Seymour will be hoping they have done enough to force their way into the senior squad for England's next game, against Scotland in Manchester next month.

Recognition there could see them called up for the Champions Trophy and EuroHockey Nations Championship later this summer.

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Camier makes mockery of lack of practice with career-best win

LEON Camier believes clinching a shock victory at Brands Hatch in the opening round of the British Superbike Championship ranks alongside the greatest moments of his career so far.

The Ashford rider, racing for Airwaves Yamaha, went into the event on Easter Monday 'blind' without any test mileage on his brand new Yamaha bike.

The 22 year-old rider soon adapted to the new bike once it had arrived at the Kent circuit and qualified by posting the fifth fastest time.

The first race was dominated by former Moto GP star Sylvain Guintoli, who cruised his way around Brands Hatch to take the chequered flag. Camier produced a solid performance to finish fourth.

However, race two provided a golden moment in Camier's career as he clinched a win in front of his home crowd. He made a solid start from fifth, but it took a number of impressive overtaking manoeuvres for him to take the lead on lap 19. Once in the lead, Camier never looked back and guided the Airwaves Yamaha to victory.

He told Kent on Sunday: "It is definitely one of the finest moments of my



Picture: NICK DUNGAN

GOLDEN MOMENT: Leon Camier stormed to victory in the first race

career. We really did not expect to win and were just hoping for two finishes and to learn about the bike. We have still got a lot of work to do, but I am feeling a lot more confident about the season ahead."

The win and fourth place finish left Camier second in the championship, seven points behind Guintoli.

Sidecar champion Tim Reeves, from Tenterden, had a mixed weekend in the British Formula 2 Championship support race.

Race one went well for Reeves and passenger Patrick Farrance as they controlled the race to take their second win of the season, but they were denied a double win as an accident on lap two cut their race short.

Reeves said: "I felt sure a double was on the cards but on the warm-up lap the bike started to misfire and cut-out and although I started the race, I knew it wasn't going to get any better so rather than risk any major damage we pulled in."

CANTERBURY GOLF DAY



Martin Saggars Canterbury Golf Day takes place on **Tuesday 12th May, 2009** at The Canterbury Golf Club.

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TOUGH DRAW: Barry Hawkins will play 2006 world champion, Graeme Dott

Duo aim to chalk up Crucible wins

THE World Snooker Championships get under way in Sheffield this weekend with two Kent players looking to make an impact on the sport's biggest stage, writes David Pritchard.

The finale to the season is the one fortnight in the sporting calendar when snooker briefly becomes a mainstream sport, with millions tuning in to watch the battle to become world champion.

Kent's Barry Hawkins and Gerard Greene came through qualifying last month to take their place in the first round, beginning their respective matches yesterday. Neither player has ever won a match at the Crucible and both will be hoping it is fourth time lucky when they play to a finish today.

Dartford's Hawkins, who turns 30 on the day the second round begins next week, has lost 10-9 on his previous two visits to Sheffield. He is desperate to stop the rot in a competition he feels is in a different league compared to the rest of the calendar.

Big crowds

"You feel like a professional sportsman when you turn up with the big crowds and lots of expectation," he told Kent on Sunday. "This is what you practice long and hard for and it's a great way to end the season, especially if you have a good run."

As well as a probable second round meeting with Mark Selby up for grabs, a win against 2006 champion Graeme Dott in the first round would all but guarantee Hawkins' return to the world's top 16 next season.

He said: "Obviously it could have been worse, I could have had Ronnie [O'Sullivan] or John [Higgins], but speaking to a few people he's playing well. It's the World Championships so whoever you get is going to be a tough draw."

Greene provided arguably the shock of final qualifying by knocking out 1997 champion, Ken Doherty. The 35-year-old, who lives in Rainham, has struggled this season but showed glimpses of his best form in a final frame defeat to Neil Robertson in the first round of the China Open last month.

He received one of the toughest opponents in Ali Carter, who lost to Ronnie O'Sullivan in the Crucible final last year.

Robbie not far off the pace

Kent fast bowler on road to recovery

WATCHING Robbie Joseph steadily move through the gears as he approaches the wicket before leaping into a smooth rhythmical action, it's clear to see why both Kent and England rate him so highly.

Coming off just a couple of paces as he works his way back from a shoulder injury suffered in a pre-season, he still has enough pace to have the experienced Rob Key hopping about in the net.

With an injury to paceman Amjad Khan ruling him out for five weeks, together with Stuart Clark's call-up for Australia ending his six-week stint with the county before it even started, Antiguan-born Joseph will be the man Rob Key looks to lead the attack.

Having claimed 55 championship wickets, making him Key's 'turn to' bowler, it was regarded by some as a breakthrough summer for the 27-year-old.

Tips

So much so it earned him a place in England's Performance Squad in Abu Dhabi as the team waited for security clearance before the start of the Test series with India.

His plans were hastily changed once again as he was drafted into the England Lions team in New Zealand as a replacement for Khan, who had joined up with the Test side.

It gave the paceman a chance to iron out some problems with his game, but also allowed him to pick up some extra tips from members of the England squad.

"The winter was eventful, India and Abu Dhabi to start with then off

By **GLENN PEARSON**

to the Caribbean to do some stuff there which was really nice to be back with my mum, nan and be immersed within my family," he said.

"There were a couple of things I worked on, particularly with problems I had last year, but in the main I learned a lot from other guys."

Spending time with Joseph, you quickly realise he's not your average kind of sportsman.

He appears to have very definite opinions – okay perhaps not so different there – but rather than dishing out all the old clichés, he was able to explain exactly what he got out of an experience such as bowling at Kevin Pietersen and Andrew Strauss during training with England.

Not just interested in the techniques and tactics, it was clear to see that he used the experience to learn more about the person and how they go about doing their job, something he attributes to having dabbled in sports psychology while doing a masters degree at university.

What might be puzzling is why it is only now that Joseph has pushed himself to the top of the queue in Kent's bowling attack, having been involved with the county since he was spotted at the age of 15.

The fast bowler is severely dyslex-

ic and with the use of some new techniques and changes to his life, he has found a way of concentrating fully on the task ahead.

"Lots happened last year that people don't know about," he said. "I now do a brain training programme which – I don't know if it helped – Paul Nixon did before he played for England. I do it a couple of times a day and it gives me more spatial awareness and more balance."

"There were also a lot of other variables as well, but one thing that helped is that last year I finally got my English passport and for me that helped me as cricket became my job."

"I also have a lot of people I can call on, like Richie Richardson, who have helped me. It's a formula that works for me and that's all I'm interested in."

The subject of bowling no-balls also cropped up and having bowled a fair few last summer, his need for improvement in that area isn't lost on Joseph.

"I bowled a ridiculous amount of no-balls last year and that's something I have been working hard on during the winter and come the start of the season I hope to see an improvement."



RECOVERY: Robbie Joseph hopes to pick up where he left off as Kent's premier fast bowler last season

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

Gills teenager makes Wales bow

GILLINGHAM youngster Josh Maughan became the latest player to win international honours when he made his debut for Wales in a youth tournament this week.

The defender from Deal, who is in Gills'

Centre of Excellence under-14 side, started against Switzerland on Tuesday and came on as a substitute against Belgium a day later.

He follows in the footsteps of other Priestfield talents to earn junior caps. Rimmel Daniel starred for Grenada under-20s last summer, while Luke Freeman caught the eye of England scouts and made his England youth debut last summer after joining Arsenal.

Brian Bull, manager at Gills' Centre of Excellence, has helped Maughan develop over the last three years since and was delighted to see another prospect represent his country.

He said: "Josh has got a great attitude. It's a tremendous achievement for him and an honour for the club."

"It goes to show you don't have to be at a big club to be involved in national squads and it gives all the boys in our programme a boost."

Gills' six second-year scholars are due to find out this week if they are to be offered professional contracts this summer.

Gills handed deals to five young players last season, but manager Mark Stimson indicated there would be less this time, with possibly as few as one contract offered.

He said: "Unfortunately it's not going to be good news for some of those boys but I'm sure they can go away from here and get themselves a career somewhere else."



DEBUT: Gillingham's Josh Maughan

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Juddians reach up after title success

By **FRED ATKINS**

BARRING a strange set of circumstances yesterday, Tonbridge Juddians will have gone the entire season undefeated in London 4 South East.

The statistics are impressive. In the 10th season since Tonbridge Rugby Club joined forces with Old Juddians, TJs recorded 21 straight victories before yesterday. They have outscored their opponents by the biblical margin of 863 points, have broken the 1,000-point barrier and have humbled a number of established London 4 clubs.

Folkestone took the most serious beating, a 124-0 massacre on the second Saturday of the season that ought to have seen the introduction of a mercy rule.

Whitstable, and Hastings & Bexhill, have also come in for some punishment, but the campaign has had its frights, notably at Bromley a fortnight ago, when only a late penalty from Alan Nuckey ensured an 18-15 victory.

Chairman Guy Sankey says club captain Darren Grasby, the unofficial director of rugby, deserves the bulk of the credit for rebuilding the side, after they were relegated from

Chairman says Tonbridge are two leagues below their level

London 3 South East last year.

"At the end of last season he took everything personally," Sankey told Kent on Sunday. "We've also been lucky in that we had a sponsor whose generosity has allowed us to push on, but it's a combination of Darren and the new coaches he has brought in."

Reinforcements were drafted in, notably Canterbury's South African fly-half Wessels Wolmarans, but Sankey says the existing squad have been coaxed to new levels by the new regime.

"It's a combination of old and new players," he said. "We've had new players come in, but the hard core of last season's players have lifted their game miles beyond anything we thought possible."

Success on this scale inevitably attracts jealousy from rival clubs. Sankey freely admits TJs pay their coaches, saying professionalism is a "fact of life" but he also argues that the club had drifted to well below its natural level.

"We feel we're two leagues below where we ought to be, in London 2, taking on the likes of Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone and Sidcup, our former foes," he said.

Playing in front of nearly 200 fans at home games also helps and Sankey hopes that promotion will bring a halt to an ebb of talent from The Slade.

"We've been losing players to Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks and we don't want to bring players through and then lose them to a team only 10 miles away," he said.

"London 4 isn't a great league to be in and the squad we've got now need a new challenge, which hopefully they'll get in London 3 next season. I doubt whether we'll go undefeated but we're confident we can get out of that league and then consolidate in London 2."



MIXED REACTION: The head coach at Canterbury (playing in black) says there are good and bad points in the Experimental Law Variations

Has ELV experiment been good for rugby?

ASK some rugby pundits for their opinions on the Experimental Law Variations and you'll get a reply peppered with industrial strength language and an enquiry as to the parentage of the men who dreamed them up, **writes Fred Atkins.**

For the 2008-09 season, the RFU decided to trial a number of ELVs, described in some quarters as "innovative", with the intention of moving the game into the 21st century (albeit eight years too late) and creating a more spectacular game for the viewing public.

The theory seemed fine, but the response to the reality of the ELVs on the ground has varied from lukewarm to apoplectic.

Of the 13 changes, the most controversial proved the ones legalising the collapse of the maul, chicanery at the line-out and forcing backs to stand at least five metres behind the scrum.

The coach of Kent's top side Canterbury, Danny Vaughan, argues that while some of these changes have obvious flaws, others have worked.

"I'll have to pick my words carefully," he said. "Because some of them have been very good, but there are some I like and some I don't. The first bone of contention is pulling down the maul."

"Defenders have worked out that you can stop an attack that way and I think that's a really bad idea, probably the worst one, because it means you can't maul the ball forwards anymore."

The line-out is also a cause for concern. "At our level, teams very rarely put any less than seven players in the line-out because of the skill levels. With three or four players in there, there's a very real danger of losing the ball, so

again it clutters up the midfield.

"The quick line-out is a great idea, but I'm not so sure about the kicking. [Under ELV4 if a team kicks the ball into touch after passing the ball back behind its own 22, the line-out takes place level with where the ball was kicked]. It tends to get ping-ponged up and down the pitch."

At a higher level, however, critics have been stock-piling rotten fruit and pelting the authorities.

The former Australia coach Eddie Jones deduced the new rules had been written on the back of the cornflake packet and was scathing about their authors.

"You have to hand it to them," the current Saracens supremo wrote in a national newspaper. "It is quite a challenge for an organisation to introduce changes that, far from having the desired effect, quickly achieve the polar opposite, but the International Rugby Board appear to have mastered the art."

Far from opening the game up, Jones said teams were kicking more and scrumming less.

"Speaking as a former hooker, that really hurts," Jones said. "Rugby is meant to be a sport for specialists, one for all shapes and sizes. This has always been, and remains, its mission statement – its guiding principle, if you like. What price specialists if we continue on this current path?"

WESTCOMBE Park will stage their 35th mini rugby festival at the Goddington Dene ground, in Goddington Park, Orpington, today.

Around 1,600 players from under-7 to under-12 sides from across the South East are expected to attend, with the first matches starting at 10am.

INVINCIBLE: Tonbridge Juddians (red and blue) have swept away all before them as champions of London 4 South East

Picture: DUNCAN MACKIE



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CRICKET

Kent's Robbie Joseph
targets big season on
return from injury **78**

KENT CLOSE IN ON OVERSEAS SIGNING

Kennedy's hopes of naming Clark replacement

KENT are in "advanced negotiations" with an overseas player and hope to be in a position to name the replacement for bowler Stuart Clark in the next few days.

Chairman George Kennedy told Kent on Sunday he had been talking to a player about filling the club's vacancy for an overseas star and was "confident" developments over the weekend would mean the county could announce the signing this week.

By **GLENN PEARSON**

All indications are that the club will again plump for a bowler to help lead their attack and despite criticism of originally signing Clark – now no longer arriving having been picked to play for Australia – Kennedy will not be put off signing another Australian in an Ashes year.

"I went out on a limb to say we need the best player for Kent and Kent will be my priority," he said. "I was heavily criticised by some of the England squad and management team who I have since met and I told them we had to do what we want."

Priority

"Kent is my priority and I will do the best in the framework laid out by the ECB. The rules allow us to sign Kolpak or international players and providing we don't break the rules, which we won't, I will go out for the best guy available."

Kennedy also revealed that South African Justin Kemp will be arriving on Monday after experiencing problems with his visa application, but Graham Ford, the club's director of cricket, is still someway off joining up with the squad.

He said: "Justin arrives Monday as he will be on a flight over the weekend, which means he is probably not going to be available for the Northants game on Tuesday because of jet lag."

Into his second year as chairman, Kennedy has warned changes will continue to ensure Kent are "fit for purpose".

NEGOTIATIONS: George Kennedy (left) says Kent are in advanced negotiations with an overseas star to boost Rob Key's (right) squad Picture: IGOR KUPCO



The club announced eight redundancies at the turn of the year, a move to offset their poor financial figures which saw losses of £706,000 for the financial year up to October 2008.

It was clearly a tough call, but one Kennedy feels has been proved right.

He said: "I have said I want the club to be fit for purpose and we started by looking at the staffing arrangements and we cut right back dramatically there."

"Everyone thought it might have a detrimental effect and it hasn't. It just shows that maybe we did have a few too many heads in the past. We are looking at all sorts of ways to raise money, two concerts are lined up, and they should go a long way to resolving our financial problems."

The £10 million redevelopment of St Lawrence has taken a back seat, principally as a result of the market downturn, but Kennedy revealed that the club could be in a position to announce a new contractor in the next few weeks.

It's highly unlikely work will begin until the end of the season, but the chairman is confident it can be completed in 2010 – a timescale the 67-year-old felt was achievable when he spoke to this paper at the end of last year.

He said: "The development side is looking better than it has for some time, the market appears to be picking up a little bit and we now have two or three definitive 'expressions of interest', so in the next few weeks we should be in a position to say we are likely to run with one or the other, which is encouraging."

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



Daish's future at Fleet in web owners' hands

LIAM Daish's future as Ebbsfleet United manager could be decided by the club's legion of internet owners as he began contract negotiations this week, **writes Tom Howard**.

The Fleet boss celebrated four years in charge at the Gravesend club this season, but is out of contract in the summer.

Daish, who guided the club to the FA Trophy last season, has admitted he would like to stay at the club, but is interested to know what direction the Fleet are heading.

But, in order for Daish's future to be secured, the club's internet owners would have to ratify the decision in the form of a similar vote used for the transfers of striker John Akinde and Darius Charles this season.

New contract

With chief executive David Davis resigning this week, chairman John Moules has stepped in to help with contract talks and he met Daish this week to begin discussions over a new contract.

He said: "It is important for the management and the players to know their future and it is high on my list of priorities."

"We have had discussions, but before anything can be agreed it will have to be put past the MyFC members."

Moules and Daish are set to meet next week for more contract discussions.

Meanwhile, the club announced they are to continue with their proposal to build up to an 8,000 capacity stadium on the A2 corridor, despite opposition from Kent County Council and Gravesend Borough Council.

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